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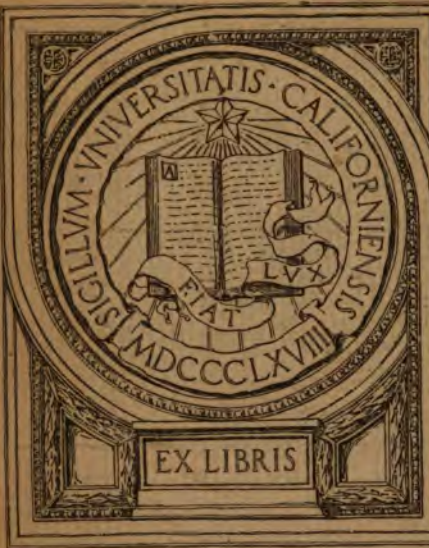

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A Slumbering Volcano

Industrial and Economic Treatise

MT. LASSEN—See Page 67

BY

WALTER WIRT FELTS

STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

1915

SYMBOL OF TRUTH AND ERROR—See Page 36—38

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Presented to the
Cal. State University
By the Author.
Walter Wint Pelton

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A SLUMBERING VOLCANO

Dedicated to All Organizations on Earth That Stand for Better Economic and Industrial Conditions and Are Making Way for Human Liberty.

BY

WALTER WIRT FELTS

STOCKTON, CAL.

Author "Principles of Science," "Natural Law in the Business World," Founder of "The Circular System."

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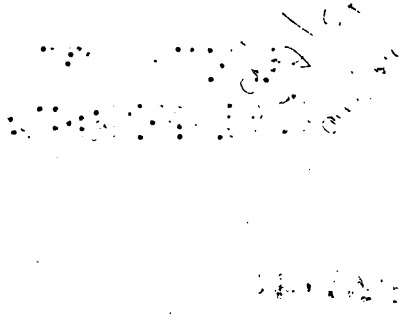

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INTRODUCTION.

This little pamphlet requires no introduction. It will introduce itself to all open minded people who are concerned with the solution of the grave economic and industrial problems that are not only a menace to the institutions and government of the United States, but threaten the overthrow of civilization.

Without a book of any kind for reference (save a Bible which I borrowed), I write this book in the depths of retirement, "far from the madding crowds in noble strife." Yet, I ask no forbearance of criticism. I am fully able and abundantly prepared to defend it against the criticism of all who pose as authority on economics, politics, science, religion, heredity or any other matter discussed in these chapters. I serve notice, however, that no attention will be paid to "lickspittles" who may snap at my heels at the bidding of their masters. My hat is in the ring, and none but heavy-weights need answer the challenge.

WALTER WIRT FELTS,

Stockton, California.

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HEED THE WARNING.

MILLIONS ARE RESTING IN FALSE SECURITY OVER A SLUMBERING VOLCANO.

Chicago, Aug. 28, 1915.—"We find the basic cause of industrial dissatisfaction to be due to low wages, or, stated in another way, to the fact that the workers of the nation, through compulsory or oppressive methods, legal and illegal, are denied the full product of their toil."

Do you say that "every man has his price"—that all honor is a commercial commodity? I will ask you to name the price that the money powers would have gladly paid to Chairman Walsh of the Federal Industrial Relations Commission to have given out a report exonerating capitalists from responsibility for the oppression and maltreatment of labor? A million dollars? I say, he could have named the price for suppressing the scathing statmements which, coming from high official source, stirs class hatred to its depths.

I admire the great moral courage of Chairman Walsh, and honor him as one of the greatest men of the nation, but cannot refrain from criticising his appeal to the people to "eliminate the injustice exposed by this commission, to the end that each laborer may secure the whole products of his labor." I criticise that appeal for failing to point out the course to pursue to secure to each laborer "the whole product of his labor." By inference I take it that Mr. Walsh had in mind the substitution of the system of cooperation for existing capitalism. That is, in fact, the only remedy, but Mr. Walsh made no such suggestion. In fact, he gave no specific instructions as to how to proceed with the agitation. I have written this book for that very purpose—to point the only way to the system that will insure to the toiler the whole products of his labor.

I have gathered the most striking portions of the report and herewith present them as mutterings from the slumbering industrial volcano.

Chairman Walsh's report follows: " Charged by your honorable body with the investigation to discover the underlying causes of dissatisfaction in the industrial situation, we present the following findings and conclusions:

"We find the basic cause of industrial dissatisfaction to be due to low wages; or, stated in another way, to the fact that the workers

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of the nation, through compulsory or oppressive methods, legal or illegal, are denied the full product of their toil.

"We further find that unrest among workers of industry has grown to such proportions that it already menaces the social good will and peace of the nation. Citizens numbering millions smart under the sense of injustice and oppression, born of conviction that opportunity is denied them to acquire for themselves and their families that degree of economic well-being necessary for the enjoyment of material and spiritual satisfaction which alone make life worth living.

Fair Warning of Trouble

"The extent and depth of industrial unrest can hardly be exaggerated. State and national conventions of labor organizations numbering many thousands cheered the names of leaders imprisoned for participation in a campaign of violence conducted as one phase of the conflict with organized employers. Thirty thousand workers in a single strike followed the leadership of a man who denounced the government and called for relentless warfare on organized society. Employers from coast to coast have created and maintained small private armies of armed men and used these forces to intimidate and suppress striking employes, deporting, imprisoning, assaulting and killing their leaders. Elaborate spy systems are maintained to discover and forestall movements of the enemy.

Hostility to Militia

"The use of state troops in policing strikes has bred bitter hostility against the militia system among members of labor organizations, and states have been unable to enlist wage-earners for this second line of the nation's defense. Courts, legislators and governors have been rightfully accused of serving employers and their agents, with almost negligible exception. It is the wage-earners who believe and assert and prove that the very institutions of their country have been perverted by the powers of the employer. Prison records for labor leaders have become badges of honor in the eyes of their people, and great mass-meetings throughout the nation cheer denunciations of the courts and court decisions."

The Latest Recruits

The report points out that ministers, professors, writers and others have come to the support of the militant labor campaign recently, and continues: "We find the unrest herein described to be but the latest manifestation of the age-long struggle of the race for freedom of opportunity for every individual to live his life to the highest ends. As the nobles of England wrung independence from King John, and as the tradesmen of France broke through the ring of privilege enclosing the Three Estates, so to-day millions who serve

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society in arduous labor on the highways, aloft on scaffoldings, or by the sides of whirling machines, are demanding that they, too, and their children enjoy all the blessings that justify and make beautiful this life.

Still Other Charges

"The unrest of wage-earners has been augmented by recent changes and developments in industry. Chief among these are the rapid and universal introduction and extension of machinery of production by which unskilled workers may be substituted for skilled, and equally rapid development in the means of rapid transportation and communication, whereby private capital has been enabled to organize in great corporations possessing enormous economic power.

"Now, more than ever, the profits of great industries under centralized control pour into the coffers of stockholders and directors who never so much as visited the plants and who perform no service in return. While vast inherited fortunes representing zero in social service to the credits of their possessors, automatically treble and multiply in volume, two-thirds of those who toil from eight to twelve hours a day receive less than enough to support them and their families in decency and comfort. From childhood to the grave they dwell in the shadow of fear that only resource—opportunity to toil—shall be taken away from them through accident or illness, the caprice of a foreman or the fortunes of industry.

"The lives of their babies are snuffed out by bad air in cheap lodgings and lack of nourishment and care which they cannot buy. Fathers and husbands die or are maimed in accidents; their families receive a pittiance or succumb in mid-life, and they receive nothing.

"And when these unfortunates seek, by the only means within reach, to better their lot by organizing to lift themselves from helplessness through some measure of collective power with which to wring living wages from their employers, they find too often arrayed against them not only the massed power of capital, but every arm of the government that was created to enforce the guarantees of equality and justice.

"We find that many entire communities exist under arbitrary economic control of corporation officials charged with the management of an industry or group of industries. We find that in such communities politicial liberty does not exist and its forms are hollow mockeries.

Employers Are Czars

"The liberties of such a community lie in the hollow of the employer's hand. Free speech, free assembly and a free press may be denied, and have been denied time and again where the employer's agents may be placed in office to do his bidding.

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"In large communities where espionage is impossible, the wage-earner who is not supported by a collective organization may enjoy freedom of expression outside the workshop, but there his freedom ends. It is a freedom that is more apparent than real; for the house he lives in, the food he eats, the clothing he wears, the environment of his wife and children, and his own health and safety are in the hands of the employer through arbitrary powers which he exercises in fixing wages and working conditions.

Straight to the Point

"Social responsibility for these unfortunate conditions may be fixed with reasonable certainty. The responsibility and such blame as attaches thereto cannot be held to rest upon the employers, since in the maintenance of the evils of low wages, long hours and bad factory conditions, in their attempts to gain control of economic and political advantages which would promote their interests, they have merely followed the natural bent of men involved in the struggle of competitive industry.

"Responsibility for the conditions which are described above, we declare, rests primarily upon the workers, who, blind to their collective strength and oftentimes deaf to the cries of their fellows, suffer exploitation and evasion of their most sacred rights without resistance.

"In a large measure responsibility must, however, attach to the great mass of citizens who, though not directly involved in the struggle with capital and labor, failed to realize that their own prosperity was dependent upon the welfare of all classes of the community, and that their rights were bound up with the rights of every other individual. But until the workers themselves realize their responsibility and utilize in full their collective power, no action, governmental or altrustic, can work any genuine and lasting improvement."

Report Quotes Lincoln

The report quotes Abraham Lincoln: "To secure to each laborer the whole product of his labor, or as nearly as possible, is a worthy object for any good government," and declares: "With this lofty ideal for a goal and under the sublime leadership of the deathless Lincoln, we call upon our citizens, regardless of politics and economic conditions, to use every means of agitation, all avenues of education and every department and function of government to eliminate the injustices exposed by this commission, to the end that each laborer may secure the whole product of his labor."

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A SIDELIGHT.

That the reader may realize that I am acquainted with real life in all its phases and conditions, and note that I have touched humanity at every point, beginning when I was a little orphan boy reared by illiterate people in the "backwoods" of the earliest settlement of California, to farm laborer, college training, years of reckless dissipation during the era of California's greatest prosperity,* journalist, scientist, author of books, inventor, two strenuous years endeavoring to float an invention with great capitalists and promoters, mining experience which involved the wrecking of my home life by the death of my saintly wife under circumstances that revealed medical malpractice, on down into poverty, where I struggled hard against the machinations and intrigue of human devils, toiling in my mine with two little motherless boys to provide and care for; from time to time forced to wage earning at the hardest kind of labor with men whose fate was a life of toil—then "plunging" in desperate effort to regain my footing, on down to the writing of this book, which gives the cream of a rich and varied experience.

I take up the tangled thread of my eventful life at the point of greatest general interest which throws a sidelight on the crooked business methods of big financiers and promoters, opening the narrative with an account of my failure to introduce a system of science that was new and revolutionary.

I was residing in Shasta county, California, in the early '90s, and comfortably situated, when my wife, who was a woman of education and culture, began to urge me to write a treatise on the new system of science in which she had become interested, and finally I consented and in time completed the work and placed the manuscripts with the Bancroft Company, San Francisco, for publication. It bore the title "Principles of Science," and, being revolutionary, met with a cool reception. I decided to follow it up with a magazine to have a more comprehensive and appropriate title, "The Circular System." I sold out my property and moved to Oakland,

*The liquor traffic with its attendant evil, the underworld, is a product of the profit sysem, and for the exisence of which the government of the United States is responsible through the protection afforded by the internal revenue tax. The government is therefore responsible for all the crimes traceable to the liquor traffic, for the appalling wreck of womanhood by prostitution and for the premature death of hundreds of thousands of men and women who now fill drunkards' graves. All for the paltry gain derived from the internal revenue tax!

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where I soon materialized my plan. I had an edition of 5000 copies printed and sent them to literary and scientific men and institutions all over the world.

Before moving to Oakland, however, I lectured on the system and had formed a personal acquaintance with many of the leading educators and scientists of the state. They all gave my magazine a cool reception. I had four monthly editions printed and published, and all the encouragement I received was from a distance. I received numerous letters from college professors with subscriptions, and an invitation from the president and council of the Philosophical Society of Great Britain to become a member, a rare compliment, indeed.

It was an impractical undertaking, but I was not then aware of the selfishness of humanity. I had dreamed that men who had risen to positions of distinction—"great men"—were living far above the envy and petty jealousies of the multitude, and that they would "boost" the new system into prominence when they were convinced it had merit. It cost me all I had to raise the curtain of sham and deception that hides the weakness of the so-called "great" and see laid bare the clay feet of my idol. I have learned, and now know, that the competitive system is no respecter of persons and contaminates the so-called "great" with the same spirit of selfishness and intolerance that actuates the ignorant rabble. I have learned, and now know, that in all the history of the human race there have been very few really great men—gigantic men who towered above their own selfish interests and ambition. Pope thus expresses it: "Like Socrates, that man is great, indeed." And I have the impression that, if there are any such now living on earth they are poor and obscure.

I then had to turn to something more practical, as I then had a family of two boys, Homer, who is now a high-class printer, and Elbert, who has attained wide reputation as a baseball player throughout the Pacific Coast states. Being naturally resourceful, I soon found my way back into the journalistic field and drudged along with indifferent success.

Later I began experimenting with the view to inventing a primary battery. My purpose was to invent a battery of merit, as there was none in use of any value. I devoted much time, labor and study to it with the result that, from a battery of a few cells, I succeeded in burning a six-candle power incandescent lamp for hours. I was then in the town of Colusa, where I had many acquaintances. The exhibit aroused considerable interest, the local papers giving me favorable notices. A local company was soon organized for the

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ostensible purpose of perfecting the invention and placing it on the market. I had considerable trouble with the directors, who seemed determined to secure absolute control.

Finally I moved to Sacramento and arranged with two prominent local electricians to verify tests which they were to make, in consideration of several thousand shares of stock each. I put up a standard sized battery in the basement of the old Granger building, near the state capitol, and exhibited lights and motor power on the ground floor. The exhibit was a success and created great interest. The statements published by my electricians verified all my claims for the invention.

A number of wealthy men "put their heads together" to steal the secret of the process. The great doors to the basement were secured by a lock that was very difficult to "pick," so they, with one or both of my electricians, tore away the lock and examined the battery, undoubtedly taking samples of the contents. Monday morning I went down to open the doors and, to my astonishment, saw at a glance that I had been robbed.

Those capitalists had undoubtedly made arrangements with a party I had just sent to the patent office at Washington to secure the patent in another name. The whole scheme dawned on me at once, so I took the street car home, determined to invent an improvement, which I did in short notice. It was a decided improvement in every way. I let the capitalist burglars know of the improvement I had invented, and shortly I received a letter from a party at Elk Grove, near Sacramento, a Mr. Gammon, who afterwards became famous for his escapades in Paris. He stated that a company would buy the invention at $55,000, $5000 cash and $50,000 in stock and bonds, allowing me a salary of $150 per month. He sent papers in duplicate for me to sign, the same to be ratified at once by the payment to me of $5000.

Having gone through the "flint mills" with the Colusa crowd and now confronted by the offer to go in with a gang of thieves, I was exasperated and turned down the offer promptly. Wife and I decided to "pull up stakes" and go East, where there was plenty of capital.

Accordingly we made ready and started on the long journey. We decided to stop off at St. Louis, where we remained but a short time. We continued our journey on to Chicago and arrived there in the fall of 1895. I was well pleased with Chicago—its buildings, streets, avenues, boulevards and its people—from appearances.

Soon after arriving I decided to have the invention experted by an accredited electrician and secure from him a typewritten

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statement giving the result of his tests. I went direct to the manager of a great storage battery concern and laid the whole matter before him. In reply he said he would not take any money on such a proposition, saying that he did not mean to be discourteous, but that he felt quite sure "there is not a primary battery on earth worth a d——n." I asked him then if he could give me the name of an expert electrician who would expert my battery, and he gave me the street and number of R. H. Pierce, who was the electrical engineer of the World's Fair at Chicago. I went direct and found him in his office, and we fixed the hour at 9 a. m. next morning when he would be at my residence.

He came promptly, and after a preliminary test of a few minutes, long enough to satisfy himself that I had "the goods," he suggested that we go to the front door and take a smoke, handing me a 25-cent cigar as we left the room. His purpose was to make a proposition to me alone, and the proposition was to let him have two cells to attach to his phonograph, and he would give me a statement, free of cost, remarking that I would thereby save $25 which was his smallest fee for one day. I assured him that his fee was very moderate and to proceed with his test. It is needless to tell the reader why he made the magnanimous (?) offer. You see, I was from California, which was then a part of the "wild and woolly west."

Well, the professor was quite congenial, and even companionable. He was more than interested, and remained with us until evening, when he decided to make a test of the waste of zinc after a run on short circuit of ninety minutes. The zinc, which was common stuff, such as is used under stoves, was weighed before and after the run and the waste, which was a trifle, noted. He remained with us until 1:30 a. m., when he took the street car for his home.

Next day I went to his office and he handed me the typewritten statement, which was a valuable document. At least, it would have been if I could have found an honest promoter or capitalist. I made several efforts to sell the invention and got several offers that appeared at first glance to be O. K. and would deceive any "hayseed." Pierce was anxious to handle the invention, but I discarded him when he referred me to a big promoter who had a scheme for himself and Pierce.

Now, I was aware that my patent solicitor I had sent from Sacramento to Washington was still around the patent office, evidently kept there by the capitalist burglars who broke into my battery room at Sacramento, to watch for a patent application with the view to side-tracking it. So I had to handle the invention as a secret process. I offered, however, to reveal the secret upon the

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deposit to my credit of $75,000 to be paid to me if, upon satisfactory tests, it was proven that I had given over every detail of the process. That was fair, but every scoundrel of them would prefer putting up "hot air" rather than money.

At length, after six months' sojourn in Chicago, I became disgusted and moved to New York City, where there was much capital. I soon found, however, that I was in the very shadow of the "golden calf" where about 3,000,000 idolaters worshiped at that shrine. I met Edison at West Orange, and he wanted me to leave a couple of cells for him to test, which I did—not. I met Tesla, a fine gentleman, who said my invention was entirely out of his line, but he warned me to be guarded. He told me he was "worked" out of his first invention. I met other prominent electricians and many millionaires, and "mixed up" with some of the greatest promoters on earth. It was surely a rich experience.

I put in an exhibit of a cluster of eight-candle power lamps at the electrical exposition at the Grand Central Palace. I used small cells on a little table in my booth, all in plain view, so that it was impossible to suspect that I was practicing deception. It attracted great interest as the lamps were much above their registered candle power and fairly sparkled in a cluster. It was the greatest electrical exposition ever gotten up to that time and continued for three weeks with an average of 5000 attendance. A number of efforts were made to steal the secret of the process, but with my good wife's assistance we easily circumvented every attempt.

One experience was notable. Charles Broadway Rouse, the blind millionaire merchant, offered $1,000,000 to any one who would restore his sight, which was practically destroyed by atrophy of the optic nerve. He offered as a substitute for various treatments a poor young man by the name of Martin, who was blind from the same cause, agreeing to pay his expenses during the time he was engaged in trying out different treatments. If any treatment restored Martin's sight, he would take it and, upon the restoration of his sight, he would pay $1,000,000. Oculists declared atrophy of the optic nerve incurable, yet the wide publicity of the case all over the world brought to Rouse, in practically all languages, proposed remedies, some of them ridiculous.

I decided to try the electric current from my battery on Martin if I could get Rouse's consent. I went to his great store on Broadway and found him there directing the business of the concern through his secretary. Rouse had large stores in five of the principal cities of the world. I made my business known to him, and in a gruff business manner he referred me to Martin, giving me his street and number. I found Martin at home and, though poor, was a good looking fellow

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with independent, manly bearing. Martin had been a druggist. He at once consented to take the treatment, and upon my return home I fixed up a battery of three cells, which would give about six volts and fifteen amperes.

I began the treatment systematically and in a couple of weeks thought I was making some progress in restoring Martin's sight, for he was not "stone" blind, nor was Rouse. They could barely distinguish between bright daylight and darkness.

At this juncture the reporters of the New York "World," "Journal" (now "American") and "Sun" got "wind" of the treatment and called for a big writeup. The reporters were admitted, and they surely gave me a flaming writeup. They made it quite sensational, and it saddened me when next morning a large number of blind people called on me for treatment. I was compelled to turn them away, taking their names and addresses, however, and promising to drop each one a card if I became convinced that Martin's sight would be restored.

But Rouse was noted for his eccentricities and was hot tempered and impatient. Besides, others kept clamoring personally and by letter to take the case, pleading assurances that each had the remedy. So Rouse finally ordered the treatment discontinued, and directed Martin to begin other treatments.

Edison had planned to take the case and try the X-ray treatment. The X-ray discovery had recently been made and all sorts of marvelous cures of diseases were predicted. During my treatment of Martin, however, Edison had a blind girl under treatment, but the frequent exposure to the X-ray removed all her hair, so that Edison decided not to take Martin under treatment.

Tesla had also planned to take the case and pass 100,000 volts through Martin's head with the hope that it would stimulate the optic nerve. He could find no reputable physician who would in any way be responsible for results and, although Tesla had passed 250,000 volts through his body, he feared that the passage of 100,000 volts through the brain might prove fatal, so he gave it up.* Nevertheless, Martin was kept busy taking various treatments.

Truth is said to be stranger than fiction, and here I will relate a true story of how a blind man could apparently see and go at will over the great city of New York without a guide, and never meet with an accident during the nine years of his blindness.

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*People generally have the impression that high voltage kills when one is electrocuted, whereas, it is the ampere that coagulates the blood and stops heart action. Voltage is pressure; amperage is volume or quantity; plainly termed, "the miner's inch." Tesla discovered a process by which he could secure high voltage practically without amperage, and by that process withstood a pressure of 250,000 volts without receiving injury.

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One morning after I had given Martin his treatment, he suggested that we walk "downtown," and pass through an interesting part of the city. I gladly assented, and we started out from my residence on Twenty-second street, near Eighth avenue. As we passed buildings of note, such as the Music Hall, Tony Pastor's old opera house, the Salvation Army building, etc., Martin would point them all out with accuracy. I noticed, too, that I had no occasion to warn him at street crossings and that he walked with me with no more difficulty than one would experience with good eyesight.

At one point en route I noticed some long timbers slanting over the sidewalk, placed there to hold the walls of a building under repair. Martin was on the street side of the sidewalk, and if he failed to turn toward the building or stoop he would walk against the timbers. I kept a close watch to warn him in time, but he needed no warning. He bore over to the middle of the sidewalk until we passed the timbers, and then resumed his former place. I asked him how he knew there was such an obstruction, and he replied that he knew there was something there, and asked me what it was. I told him, and asked him to tell me how he knew there was anything in the way. He said he did not know, but that he never made a mistake.

We went over to Third avenue and when we reached Gramercy Park he pointed out the old residence of Samuel J. Tilden, "The Sage of Gramercy Park," as he was known by his multitude of friends and admirers. We passed on down to Broadway and Park Row, where he pointed out the city hall, postoffice building, newspaper buildings, etc.

Upon another occasion I was at his home on Elizabeth street and, when I was taking my departure, he said he would go with me as far as Broadway and transfer down town. When we reached Broadway he got off the street car, went to the sidewalk and stopped at the street corner an instant, then hurried to a street car that was standing in Broadway waiting for passengers to get on and off. He went safely among vehicles in crowded Broadway and got aboard the car just as one with perfect sight would do.

With the exception of having been knocked down a time or two by careless bicycle riders, in all the nine years of his blindness he had never met with an accident. How he could go safely through the crowded streets of that great city with such accuracy and always without a guide is a mystery. He had no explanation, and all but spiritualists would be at a loss for a satisfactory explanation.

The belief of that sect is that he had a spirit guide that led him more safely than could an earthly guide. Not having a better explanation for the remarkable phenomenon, I am perfectly willing to let it go at that.

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Resuming my narrative, the stirring events following the sensational newspaper reports threw me and my invention into the limelight, and I received a number of invitations from promoters to call at their offices as they were desirous of opening negotiations for handling the invention. I called on two or three of them, and each and all had a splendid proposition to submit—with a "joker" concealed.

A rather dramatic event took place at this juncture. In fashionable apartments on an upper floor of the great building in which we resided lived a brilliant actress who was there on a vacation. She decided to "butt in" for a deal as a promoter. She made the acquaintance of myself and family, and was a frequent and very entertaining caller. She was a fine conversationalist and of attractive appearance. Her scheme was to take the matter up with Lewellen of No. 3 Wall street. We soon reached an understanding and, securing a copy of Pierce's statement of his test of my battery at Chicago, she went to her millionaire friend. He took the matter up with Johnson, civil engineer at Niagara Falls, together with the electrician and a New Orleans cotton king. She worked them up to fever heat, but kept them from meeting me personally, as they were anxious to do.

A silk merchant heard of it and begged Mrs. De Noy (for that was her stage name) to let him into the deal. She offered to let him in for a loan of $1500. He was only too glad to make the loan, and doubtless he has her note to this day if it was written with indelible ink on "buckskin."

The temptation was too great, so she fell a victim to senseless greed. Her scheme was a holdup of all concerned. She planned to force me down on my price and bleed the capitalists to the limit. Although she had in sight $20,000, she was not satisfied, so she ruptured the deal by her inordinate greed. I turned the whole business down, and later turned my attention to writing my second book, this time an economic treatise entitled "Natural Law in the Business World." It was an economic phase of "The Circular System," which is a true conception of science as a whole and which I had originated. Many an important detail has been left out of this narrative, but it would become tedious for the reader. Altogether it embraced a period of nearly two years of such experience as rarely falls to the lot of a "little old" orphan boy who had finally made his way to the front. It all makes good, instructive history, however, that throws a side light on the crooked ways of the "higher-ups."*

*As Henry George, author of "Progress and Poverty," and one of the three greatest thinkers and writers of all times, was an old Californian, I called on him and family at his home on Brooklyn Heights. I mention this to throw a sidelight on the home life of great people. It has been my good

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After completing the manuscript for my book I went the rounds of publishing houses, every one refusing to handle the book. The objectionable chapter was devoted to proving scientifically that bimetalism is in conformity with natural law. This all occurred soon after the election in 1896 when organized capital set its ponderous foot down on bimetalism.

Determined not to be outdone, I paid for the printing and binding, and could get none but a religious publishing house to handle the book. Yet this is "free America," where freedom of speech and the press is guaranteed!

In March, 1897, we took our departure for Missouri, where my wife was born and reared, stopping at Mexico City, where I conducted a newspaper. When the Coffee Creek mining excitement broke out we read in the newspapers of the rich strike, giving Redding, California, as the nearest point by rail to the new El Dorado. I got the mining fever and suggested to my wife that we pack up and go there at once, remarking that I had always believed I would be a lucky prospector. So we hastened to Redding, but when we reached there the excitement was dying away. So I decided to prospect in the immediate vicinity of Redding. After securing a place of residence, I bought a pick, pan and shovel and went up the Sacramento river about two and a half miles, where, on a bar that flooded during winter, and had been a rich placer field, I noticed a cropping of mineralized quartz. Now, I was a "tenderfoot," never having had any experience at prospecting for quartz. But I believed then, and still believe, that I am a born prospector, and so was guided by that inspiration.

Old prospectors told me that there was no such thing as a ledge in bedrock, and after I located two claims and went to work on the prospect I was the butt of ridicule. I could see no logic in the theory that a ledge or body of ore could not "live" in bedrock, and, in fact, on that account the ground had not been prospected, was encouragement to me. In spite of all the ridicule, I kept right on at work, using giant powder for blasting.

But I made a fatal mistake in taking samples of the ore to the assay offices for examination. It seems now that I should have

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fortune to have been personally associated with a few great people, men and women, and I have found them all unostentatious and without a touch of vanity. Mr. George and family made me feel like I was with "home folks," although there was a high order of refinement and culture pervading the home, which itself was unpretentious. Mrs. George was surely a fit companion for that great man, and the two refined and accomplished daughters bore unmistakable evidence of their beautiful home life.

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known better after over two years' experience with "men of affairs." But I have been from childhood confiding and had no natural inclination to be suspicious.

It is a great body of telluride ore and very refractory. The assayers pronounced it a sort of "water formation mineralized with white iron and water sulphurets." Finally I had assays made by the three assayers and the report was $1.50, $2 and $2.60 per ton. But the assay reports failed to discourage me, and I worked on sinking a shaft. I would frequently drop into the principal assay office evenings and there was talk and actions that aroused my suspicion. There was too much interest taken in the prospect that, according to the assay reports, carried practically no value. I advised with an old prospector who told me to roast a piece of the ore, mortar it up, boil the pulp in nitric acid, then I could pick the gold up with quicksilver. I tried it, but nothing would adhere to the quicksilver. I had it in a saucer and, not knowing what else to do, took in to my next neighbor, who was a prospector. He examined it, then went into an adjoining room, brought out a little scale on his knife blade and dropped it in the saucer. Instantly the quicksilver was brilliant, and after running it around through the pulp a few times it was "loaded." He told me to get it on my fire shovel and burn off the quicksilver and I would have the pure metal. I did so and had a nice little flake of gold. I took it back to my neighbor and he was surely surprised and excited. He knew of my suspicion of the assayers, so told me to say not a word and he would take hold with me and extract the gold by hand process, as it was undoubtedly very rich ore.

Having been reared in California when it was a land of more than plenty had developed in me a spirit of independnece and old-time manhood that would bow to no human being I "boiled over" with righteous indignation and belittled the assayers, which proved a boomerang. I got enough of the preparation to make a few more tests, one by weight, which yielded 10 cents an ounce. He made a test of four pounds that ran at the rate of $4000 per ton.

But I had "stirred up a hornet's nest" which resulted in my neighbor refusing to give me any more of the preparation to use with the quicksilver. The devils had waited on him and told him what would happen if he gave me any further assistance.

So there I was, tied hands and feet, with the prejudice of the public, and envy and jealousy of prospectors, against me; envious because the mine lay only two and a half miles from town, the croppings exposed and less than fifty yards from the county road. Besides I was a "tenderfoot," which made the case more aggravating.

At this juncture my wife's mother, a splendid old lady, who had made her home with us since our marriage, became very feeble and,

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to our surprise, one morning while lying on the lounge, died suddenly without a struggle. It was a terrible blow to my wife, who was strongly attached to her mother. With saddened hearts we interred the remains in the Redding cemetery.

I again resumed work on the mine with that determination that knows no defeat. I continued the work for only a few weeks until my wife's confinement. Fearing intrigue, we secured the services of a midwife instead of a physician. For several days after the baby girl was born my wife got along nicely. One day she became suddenly ill, however, and I hurried for the nearest doctor, who proved to have considerable mining interests. He gave my wife some medicine that relieved her, and in a short time she was as well as usual. Next morning the doctor called and changed the medicine which, after she had taken a dose, caused her great pain. I hastened to tell the doctor, and he returned and changed the medicine, which was little better. He came every morning until my wife became almost unconscious, when I told him not to call again. I employed another physician but, alas too late, for that night at about midnight she was seized by a severe pain about her heart, and before I could return with the physician she was dead.

And the great light that had come into my life had gone out! Almost stranded financially, with two little boys and a baby girl twenty-four days old to care for, with a lot of devils against me—what could I do? Then was the test of my religion, for, as I have stated elsewhere in this book, I was a sincere Christian. Without that belief and faith I would have been a dangerous man.

The midwife took care of the baby until an old friend of my wife, Mrs. A. A. Rice, now resident of Lodi, Cal., sent for it, and to her credit be it said, that she cared for it like a mother and reared the motherless babe, training her to become an ideal young lady.

Fortunately I received the appointment as field deputy for the State Mining Bureau, which would occupy my time for about two months at a fee of $150.*

I rallied, for the two little boys must be cared for and properly trained to become men and not devils. I refused every offer made to take the boys and care for them, although through my struggles

*My enemies worked up a prejudice against me among many people of Redding and laid all manner of schemes to defeat all my efforts. They even made up a purse and sent one of their number to the State Mining Bureau at San Francisco to defeat my appointment as field deputy. They kept vigilant watch for all prospective purchasers and turned them away by falsehood and misrepresentation. Through the secret combination of mining men they were in touch with assayers everywhere, rendering it impossible to get correct assay reports on the ore.

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until they became old enough to be of assistance they were a great care and responsibility; yet I am glad, and proud to say that they are both exemplary young men.

That was an almost rainless winter, 1897-8, so that I put in much of the time working at the mine until February 1st, the date of the baby's birth. I took up the work as field deputy in April, but, pending that time, I met one of the assayers who, to my surprise, spoke to me about the mine and asked me to bring him some of the deepest ore and he would assay it. So I did and, upon examination, he pronounced it high grade ore, and promised to assay it in two or three days. I told a party who I thought was friendly toward me, but he carried the news to my enemies, and when I met the assayer the third day and asked him when he would have the assay report, he bluntly repied that he would have nothing to do with it. It so offended me that I wrote out a statement to the effect that the ore had been intentionally under-assayed, giving the figures of the assays, names of the assayers, and paid for its publication in a Redding daily. I gave the assayers a reasonable time in which to defend themselves, and upon their failure to do so I again had published the result of my own test (10 cents an ounce), and that of my neighbor's ($4000 per ton). Still the assayers were "mum," although they could have made a serious case against me in the courts if they had made honest assays. But I had not the slightest fear of prosecution.

I completed the work of field deputy and, that being campaign year, I went to a town in the county, started a campaign paper and had the printing done in Redding.

Meantime, I gave two Redding men a working bond on the mine, agreeing to give them seven-sixteenths interest to place the mine on a commercial basis. They employed some miners and work began. They undoubtedly took out very rich ore, but it was assayed down to nearly nothing. They continued to sink the shaft and I to run the paper until after the election early in November, when I returned to Redding.

I had talked to a party who resides at the town where I ran the paper about buying out the working bond of the parties who were beginning to get discouraged, and he decided to come and examine the property. He came, and took home with him a piece of the ore. Upon his arrival home, he talked with a photographer about the proposition and showed him the piece of ore. The photographer said he could test it, and to do so broke up a small piece of it and treated it to nitro-muriatic acid. He then made a toning table and tested it. The picture was perfectly developed. As it takes 3 cents in gold in the bath to develop a picture, the photographer could make a rough esti-

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mate of the value of the ore, which he pronounced very high grade.

This excited my friend, who arrived on the early morning train at about sunrise to tell me about it. I knew nothing about photography, but when he told me the process I decided at once to try it. He went up to the mine, and I filled a Castoria bottle full of the solution prepared from the ore, and went to one of the photographers and got an undeveloped picture, then got a dish from an adjoining restaurant, filled it with water and poured in about a tablespoonful of the solution. Upon immersing the picture I noticed that it showed the outlines of a picture, but quickly faded white. I took it to the photographer for information. He asked me what I had, and I told him, whereupon he remarked that I had used too much gold and, at that rate, I must have about $35 in the bottle. He asked me about the mine and if I would sell it, and when I told him I would, he asked me to remain there a few minutes and he would go and wire a mining man to come. He wired to one in Nevada and one in San Francisco, but their engagements hindered them from comnig. He was surely excited, and said that I undoubtedly had a rich mine.

I went at once to one of the parties holding the working bond and bought him out. Then three photographers, a prominent druggist and another party purchased altogether seven-sixteenths interest in the mine, paying $55 per sixteenth. Then we arranged to rush the work, all laboring under excitement. We employed two miners and three of the company assisted in sinking the shaft. We took out some magnificent ore, but the assayers assayed it below paying point. The ore was sent to assayers at a distance with like results. All of which goes to prove how thoroughly mining interests are combined and so hedged about that when mining men start a boycott there is no way out of it for the victim.

As there was at that time nothing known to the chemistry of photography but gold that would tone a picture by the gold process, the photographers could practically determine the value of the ore.

We worked up to December 31st, and that night twenty-two inches of snow fell on the level, which permanently suspended the work. Again I was left alone with my two little boys in a cabin to fight it out as best I could with all the odds against me.

During the winter I went across the river prospecting and located a claim. I went to work with the prospect of taking out a "bunch" or "pocket." I put in several months' hard work there, took out some splendid ore, but I was again "hoodooed" by the assayers. Long, weary months of toil to no purpose, and I now wonder how I could have the courage, energy and enthusiasm to go through it all. My boys were well cared for and had lessons from me that few, if any, fathers are capable of teaching.

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About this time De Lamar's expert, who had just examined the Bully Hill mine and reported favorably, dropped into Redding. His name was Beula (I am not sure I spell his name correctly), and I happened to meet him in advance of any "knocking." I showed him a fine specimen of solidly mineralized ore, and at a glance he was thrown into excitement he made no apparent effort to conceal. He asked me how far away the location, how deep to the ore body, how wide, and when I told him he remarked that he represented De Lamar and that, upon examination, if he could pass upon the mine favorably, he would make a spot cash offer, as De Lamar never took a bond on mining property. The following morning was fixed as the time when he could go and examine the property, and accordingly he was on hand anxious to see the mine. From the drift of his talk it was clear that he had been "knocked," not as to the value of the mine, for he was an expert, but as to my poverty and the certainty of being able to purchase it at a small figure.

After the examination and our return, he said he would see me later, and went to the hotel. The fourth day he sent a man to make me an offer of $20,000, which I promptly turned down, remarking that he could have it for $75,000, and that would be practically giving it away. He remained in town for months, hoping and expecting that I finally would take his offer. And I would have taken his offer only that I felt he would make a better one. And he would have done so, I still believe, only for the influence of my enemies.

At this time I had but one partner, who had seven-sixteenths interest, the others all dropping out, one from discouragement, and the others from the evident reason that they had gotten a "hunch" as to the true value of the ore, but could do nothing with their interests so long as I held the controlling interest. Two of them tried much "funny business," but their methods were transparent. At length they sold their interests for a few dollars, and the last I heard of them they were tramp photographers.

I will here state that I am now the sole owner of that mine, and if any mining man who is looking for a big mine wishes to get in touch with me on a leasing or bonding proposition, address me at Stockton, California.

It is needless to go into further details. This book was written at Redding after returning from six months' development work on a gold mine a few miles from Redding, consisting of forty acres of ground which a partner and myself hold by a deed. It consists of a large body of gold-bearing ore with shoots of high-grade ore and, for 500 feet wide, would pay to mine from the grass roots down. There are at least 300 tons of ore on the dumps, much of it high-grade. Notwithstanding that samples have been taken by mining men from

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the richest places where one can demonstrate with a gold pan its high grade in free gold, those pirates have the calloused impudence to report assays "from a trace to $3.60 per ton!" That mine is also on the market at a reasonable price on easy terms.

That little 2x4 pygmies would try to palm off such "raw" schemes on one who had gone through a rich experience on a big proposition with some of the shrewdest promoters and financiers in the world would be amusing if it was not serious. I find men well up in wealth and position who are "mutts" pure and simple. But they are inflated with self-importance and, because of their wealth or position, have no better sense than to estimate a man's ability by the dollar standard. Having so little real intelligence, they have no standard by which to measure the intelligence of other men, and so they try to work their "half-baked skin games" on all men alike.

In conclusion, I will say that I hold no grudge against Redding as a community. My old enemies who endeavored to beat me out of my old mining property and, failing in that, opened among assayers and smelters a general boycott, are either dead or "poor as a church mouse." The black hand of retribution was against them and they could not prosper.

On behalf of Shasta county, I have nothing but praise. It is undoubtedly the richest county in the state in extent and variety of resources. Its mineral deposits are vast and 90 per cent undeveloped. Nearly every known metal may be found there in paying quantities. Gold mining is scarcely in its infancy. The county is badly in need of real mining men, and intelligent and experienced prospectors.

THE FUNDAMENTAL ERROR.

How Sin Came Into the World

At the very outset I will state that I am not an infidel in the extreme meaning of the term which regards the Old and New Testaments as "framed-up" for the purpose of holding the masses in ignorant servilance to kings, rulers and capitalists. But I do affirm that the Bible bears unmistakable evidence of having been written by men and of men who had no conception of the philosophy of human government and were utterly unaware of the fact that the abuse of power by kings and rulers, and perverted institutions of government, were responsible for all the sins, abuses, evils, vices and crimes that prevailed from the beginning of Bible history to the crucifixion.

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Moreover, those Bible characters knew nothing of the science of human nature as demonstrated by phrenology, or of the fundamental principles of the law of heredity.

From a cause for which we cannot attach the blame to the first parents of the human race, they adopted private ownership, and in the very brief history of the human family, as given in Genesis, from the creation to the flood, it is recorded that "God saw the wickedness of man was great on this earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of the heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth and it grieved Him at His heart." And here begins the story of the flood.

After the flood begins the history of kings and rulers who kept the masses in awe and reverence, believing in their dense ignorance that kings ruled by divine right. Under what may be termed feudalism, there was no such thing as an economic system. The ruler held the masses in industrial servitude which gave him practical ownership of all the wealth and, with the people looking up to him as an inspired ruler, his word was law whether written or spoken.

Although the New Testament supplants the Old, history takes up the story of the conquest of rulers for spoils, and for centuries and, indeed, until very recent years, the claim to rulership by divine right was unquestioned by the ignorant subjects. The dark ages followed long after the crucifixion when the human family was plunged into a long night of ignorance and superstition.

Finally dissensions from the Catholic church that had grown rich, powerful and corrupt threw the nations of Europe into a reign of bigotry and intolerance that resulted in disastrous wars. Centuries later when the Protestant churches became sufficiently powerful to compete with the Catholic church, the people through the growth of religious liberty, became more enlightened and self assertive which brought about changes in governments more tolerant of the demand for a greater degree of personal liberty. Thus, feudalism gradually gave way to competition which brought into existence an economic and industrial system that hastened the development of capitalism which is now the prevailing system the world over.

The earliest Bible record of private ownership may be found in Genesis, chapter 4, verse 2: "And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground." Also the first crime recorded in verse 8: "Cain rose up against his brother and slew him." In Genesis chapter 13, verse 2: "And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver and in gold."

Next comes the record of wars. Deuteronomy, chapter 2 and verses 30 to 36. "But Sihon, King of Hasbon would not let us

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pass by him; for the Lord thy God hardened his spirit, and made his heart obstinate, that he might deliver him into thy hand. And the Lord said unto me, behold, I begun to give Sihon and his land before thee: begin to possess, that thou may inherit his land. Then Sihon came out against us, he and all his people, to fight at Jahaz. And the Lord our God delivered him before us; and we smote him, and his sons, and his people. And we took all his cities at that time, and utterly destroyed the men, and the women, and the little ones, of every city, we left none to remain. Only the cattle we took for a prey unto ourselves, and the spoil of the cities which we took."*

Also chapter 3, verses 2 to 9. Read them and note that these atrocities are a part of the history of Moses, "the Law Giver." Turn to Joshua, chapter 11, and note that Joshua did as Moses, "servant of the Lord," commanded.

It is needless to cite further references to wars as recorded in the Old Testament. They are so numerous that it would be as well for the reader to look them up; and note that those merciless wars were instigated by kings and rulers for spoils—one nation or tribe literally massacreing the people of another and taking possession of their wealth. It will be noted that the people toiled or waged fierce wars at the bidding of rulers who, they believed, ruled by divine right.

Solomon was the shining example of the wanton profligacy of rulers. As king, his record shows a shameless disregard for the freedom and rights of the people. He used them as he saw fit, even to adopting a system of wholesale adultery without a parallel in history. Just out of vain curiosity, he tried the experiment of lavish extravagance, such as characterized the reign of Louis XIV, using thousands of people as servants to toil for him at his bidding. He stated plainly that his purpose was to go the limit in trying out every imaginable project from being a privileged libertine to surrounding his harem with splendor and display hitherto unknown to any ruler. And he had built a "temple of worship," that, for extravagant architecture and adorning, was a marvel of workmanship, and stood for centuries a monument to the stupidity of an enslaved people. He

*Here the foundation was laid, and the religious precedent established, for the long reign of fendalism throughout which the masses were kept in servitude and slavery under the injunction, "Servants, obey your masters," which, in their dense ignorance, they believed was the comandment of God who bestowed upon rulers the prerogative to rule by divine right. The awful massacres of men, women and children to satisfy the greed and ambition of rulers who used their willing subjects to perpetrate such attrocities as religious duty, were sins which make the story of the fall of man through the disobedience of Adam and Eve appear as a pleasing fairy tale.

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tried a number of projects, and at the conclusion of each effort to satisfy his majesty's desire to become happy, he saw no pleasure in it all, and exclaimed: "Behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit." Poor king! Too bad he could not make himself happy at the cost of the manhood and womanhood of his poor, miserable subjects. Too bad!

Now, it requires no argument to prove that feudalism was the outgrowth of private ownership, and competition the outgrowth of feudalism, and finally, capitalism the legitimate offspring of competition.

Under feudalism, land was held by feudal lords and continued to be the property of rulers and the royal family long after fendalism merged into competition, and continues to be so held in some nations to this day of boasted enlightenment.

Under more liberal forms of government, land is sold to private purchasers, or given away by franchises or subsides to corporations, the self constituted government having no title in fact, yet protects purchasers and corporations by the powerful machinery of government.

In all cases, might makes right and whether just or unjust, title to land is made under the guise of laws purely artificial and without the authority of nature or nature's God. Nowhere in the annals of history or in the Bible is there a single instance of record in which title to a single foot of soil was held by grant or deed from the Creator as private property.

A title to land that would stand the test of abstract justice would bear the signature of the owner of the earth with the great seal of the universe affixed. Have you any such deed? Don't all speak at once!

In this last analysis, title to private ownership of land is as much without justification as title to the air we breathe. Both air and land are indispensable to the sustenance of life. One is as essential as the other and, under the competitive system, both alike would be held by private ownership were it not for the instability of air. Given the power to create a vacuum around the landless, it will not be denied that the land monopolists would establish rates for air and exact pay for same as is done for gas and water.

It is through land monolopy that millions are rendered homeless and dependent. It is the parent monopoly of all monopolies. Given access to the soil which is the only source of independent subsistance, and other monopolies could not exist, for the reason that their existence depends wholly upon the helplessness of the homeless.

Verily, "man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn." Why? Why man's inhumanity to man? Surely, among

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the more civilized nations man would not be guilty of inhumanity to his kind without some reasons that would have at least the appearance of justification. And here is the reason that has not the slightest appearance of justification. Through private ownership, a class of men whose sole purpose in life is to acquire wealth, create monopolies, first land monopoly, then the rest is easy. No trick to acquire and hold a monopoly of the facilities of production and distribution. From this cause millions rendered homeless, become tramps, vagabonds, criminals, with always an army in enforced idleness and half starving. The producers of wealth are exploited and the consumers robbed by exorbitant profits levied by the captains of industry and middlemen on the necessaries of life. Nearly everyone becomes selfish and sordid, and millions become downright dishonest.

The world was thus submerged in iniquity and sin when Christ came, although long before it was related that mankind was so wicked that it became necessary to wipe all but Noah and his family from the face of the earth with a flood and repopulate, sorry to say, with no better results. Indeed, commercialism had reached a point at Christ's coming that would brook no interference, and because Christ was "hurting business" by his teachings, threatening to overthrow the corrupt condition into which capitalism had submerged the Roman Empire, he was crucified, together with all his apostles.

Less notable was the martyrdom of Socrates whose great moral teachings were also "hurting business." Thousands, indeed, have suffered martyrdom for asserting their independence of church and state. Even in the boasted enlightenment of the present time there is a host of men who dare not assert their belief in Socialism for fear of the boycott—a sort of refined martyrdom.

Let us pause and ask, when and how sin came into the world? I have pointed out some of the greatest sins committed, and have showed the fundamental cause to be private ownership, which is responsible for all the evils, abuses, crimes and iniquity that have cursed humanity since Cain murdered Abel.

Indeed, we are adding to the same old history of devastating wars, for even now as I write, all Europe is in the throes of the bloodiest and most destructive war ever waged in the history of the world. History repeating itself over and over in grewsome monotony, recording the rise and fall of empires; the weary toil and privation of the struggling masses—the burden bearers of all the ages—the poverty and industrial servitude of the producers of all wealth, and the shameless uses to which that wealth is appropriated. Turn back the pages of history to the reign of Louis XIV and note the lavish extravagance of that ruler. His court and palaces so dazzled

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all Europe that its rulers endeavored to pattern after the shameless extravagance. His court and palaces were adorned until they shone with dazzling splendor, in the midst of which gilded vices and licentiousness, vile and vicious, were veiled by pomp and splendor. His palaces alone cost hundreds of millions of dollars and 15,000 royal bummers were kept in luxurious idleness.

Turn back the pages of history, back to Egypt, to its earliest settlement—back to the building of the pyramids—back, so remote that the archeologist translates history from the buried ruins of once luxurious cities forty centuries gone by—from the ruins of vast temples of marvelous architecture—from relics rich, rare and costly as adorns the modern courts and palaces of Europe. They all tell the same old story of the industrial bondage of the masses to predatory and self constituted rulers whose subjects believed that they ruled by divine right.*

Do you ask when and how sin came into the world? What a foolish question! Sin is wrong-doing—departing from the path of rectitude. Very well, do people, as a rule, go wrong from choice—for "pure cussedness?" Or is it caused by perverted economic and industrial conditions? Few people become criminals from choice, and those few are the victims of the law of heredity which places the cause back to the bad environment of their parents.

It may be noted that here in the United States as economic and industrial conditions grow worse, our jails, penitentiaries and asylums are over-crowding with inmates. Greed, intensified by the competitive struggle for gain, is the cause. The professions and trades are overcrowding and many are tempted to take some desperate advantage which lands them in jail. Thousands in all walks of life are so tempted, and in all cases they justify their course by affirming that the big grafters are literally robbing the people and that, therefore, it no longer pays to be honest.

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*Coming on down to the causes which provoked the French Revolution, we find that the despotic greed of the French nobility became exasperating and at length unbearable. The French subjects had become more enlightened and had caught a glimpse of the light of human liberty. The writings of Voltaire, who had become savagely radical, inflamed the desperate subjects and, having no deliverer and knowing no redress for the atrocious wrongs inflicted upon them, they arose in awful fury and, like blind Sampson, pulled the pillars of the temple of the corrupt empire down upon the heads of the innocent as well as the guilty. This terrible tragedy of history was but an incident in the fierce struggle of mankind to throw off the yoke of feudal oppression founded upon the religious institution which maintained that rulers ruled by divine right.

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In the mad scramble for gain, what has become of the churches? How can one lead the life of an upright Christian and be successful in any kind of business? Why, the competitive system and Christianity are at daggers points. Competition means commercial cannibalism—Christianity means the brotherhood of interests both temporal and spiritual. "Come out from among them and be ye separate, sayeth the Lord," means to come out from among sinners in order to be a Christian.

Christ was not a Socialist. He advocated no form of political government. His doctrine reached far beyond all temporal government. His doctrine and teachings are non-political and purely theistic. There is no hint of the principles of Socialism between the lids of the Bible. As a political and economic system, it cannot claim divine sanction from the authority of the Old or New Testament. Adam and Eve were not admonished by the Lord to adopt a system of co-operation when He commanded them to go forth to populate and subdue the earth.

Socialism, as a system of government, is of purely human origin. gradually assuming form after centuries of industrial and, in many cases, chattel bondage of the masses of mankind. Socialism, as understood and advocated today, came up through much tribulation —centuries of "man's inhumanity to man"—so sickening in its recitals as to turn one from history in amazement and disgust. We wonder why some master mind did not discover and proclaim the principles of co-operation centuries ago, even when Greece was the seat of learning, or "Rome, from her seven hills of beauty, ruled the world."

And now we come to the vital point of discussion. It has been shown, which, indeed, should be patent to a man with even a skull full of fine sand, that sin, with all its hideous enormities, was ushered in at the first adoption by the human family of private ownership under feudalism, and later passing from competition into capitalism. We find that from some cause, the human family at the very outset adopted that system which has obtained through all the ages to the present time.

The question is, where shall we place the responsibility for the adoption of private ownership and competition—the parent of sin and all iniquities? If the human mind was so constituted that it would drift into that system, as a duck takes to water, then the responsibility must rest with the creator of the human mind, whoever or whatever that creator may be. Man himself could not in justice be held responsible for obeying his inclinations when he knew

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no better way, and was in no way warned or admonished to turn from a system that even human intelligence now knows must inevitably and unavoidably lead to disastrous results.

Christ came to redeem the world from sin, but he left untouched the temporal cause of sin, and for nearly twenty centuries his doctrine and competition have been at daggers' points, with the odds decidedly in favor of the old sin creating system. Indeed, the greatest calamities of history resulted from religious disputes, prejudices and intolerance. It has even been claimed that more harm has resulted from the introduction of Christianity than good. Be that as it may, one fact is clear, and that is, the efforts to introduce the doctrine of Christianity were attended by disasters due to the conflict waged against the innovation of a doctrine that threatened to overthrow well entrenched capitalism with all its nefarious and abominable institutions. Those efforts to found the doctrines of Christianity ended in tragedy, and after the last apostle had been crucified, there was a long silence to be broken by the establishment of a self-constituted church with a leader claiming to have possession of "the keys of the kingdom of heaven." For a long period that organization grew and, flushed with temporal success, became corrupt and was nothing more than sanctified commercialism.

Then came protests which found followers, and a reign of terror ensued. Protestant churches finally came forth from the awful persecutions, all claiming divine sanction, with the old self-constituted church still in the lead. And all are now dominated by commercialism, while iniquity abounds as it did when Christ first proclaimed the gospel of "peace on earth, good will toward men."

Let us now take another view of the situation. Let us suppose that at the very outset the human family had adopted the co-operative system, and let us suppose that when Christ came he would have found the people living under such a system. Do you think he would have been crucified? Think you he would have been reviled and persecuted? Do you think that a people living in harmony under a system of co-operation would have rejected the teachings of Jesus Christ? Any sensible person knows that he would have been gladly received, just as he was gladly received by the poor. All opposition to his teachings came from the "higher ups," who incited the mob to violence.

This brings us broadside against a tremendous question—the question of placing the responsibility for the existence of the sins of the world. If the economic and industrial system of the world is so perverted as to encourage rascality, trickery, treachery, double-dealing and all manner of nefarious schemes for gain, if under such

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a system vice is fed while virtue starves—if success is offered as a premium on rascality, and poverty through it may be the lot of the grandest characters, a disgrace—then upon whom or what does the responsibility for the sins of the world rest when the sinner is helpless under the system for the existence of which he is in no way responsible? For I have shown that the responsibility for the existence of the system dates back to the very beginning, and there we find mankind adopting private ownership as a duck takes to the water. Who, then, is responsible for all the sins of the world from the beginning, individually and collectively?

Reader, I leave you to draw your own conclusion. I am not an infidel, but I must confess that I am wandering in a maze of doubt and uncertainty. One thing I do know, and that is, I am firmly grounded in my faith in Social Democracy. Let us adopt it, brethren, and then we will be sure there will be vastly fewer sins to answer for "in the day of judgment," no matter who must answer for them.

One proposition is self-evident and that is, "thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," is an imposibility under the competitive system. The christianization of the world is utterly impossible under a cut-throat system of government and economics. The odds are so overwhelmingly against every principle of Christianity as to render all efforts to Christianize commercial barbarians and cannibals abortive. Prevailing high-handed business methods and practice are so at variance from the doctrines of Christianity as to make Christ's teachings appear ridiculous.

It would appear then, to be an utter imposibility to Christianize the world under the competitive system. The first thought that comes uppermost, then, is the question as to why an effort should have been made to accomplish an impossibility? Nowhere between the lids of the Bible can be found the slightest intimation that any other political or economic system could or should exist excepting that which had existed from the beginning. The Old Testament founded the doctrine of the "divine right of kings" to rule, and the New Testament nowhere condemns the competitive systems as such, even Christ recognizing the right of Caesar to rule. He in no instance condemned the political and economical system as being responsible for "the sins of the world," but endeavored to Christianize under that system, which the incidents of history since the creation prove to be an impossibility.

"Come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord," meant to gather into Christian communities and live together in brotherly love wherein temporal laws would be unnecessary. To

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mount at a single bound to human perfection from commercial cannibalism, which had been steeped into humanity by usage, tradition and heredity since the beginning, is a dream. My knowledge of human nature prompts me to say that that is an impossibility. An effort was made during the apostolic age to accomplish that purpose, but two were striken dead for lying about giving over all of their belongings to the Christian community. You see, they were evidently mistrustful and decided to leave a little stake out of the deal in case of emergency. Like everyone even to this day, they were thoroughly soaked with the old system through heredity and the habits of life that they could not cut loose from the temporal and hold fast to the spiritual.

Regeneration is of slow development and, to be permanent, must be laid deep in the inner consciousness of a humanity freed from the curse of commercialism. It seems to me the teachings of Christianity deal with effects rather than the cause, endeavoring to abolish sin without removing the cause. If you tell me that the system itself was the outgrowth of the disobedience of Adam and Eve, and that the system was inflicted upon them as a chastisement, I will remind you of the injustice of a decree that would inflict untold suffering, misery, want, degradation, bloodshed, disaster, havoc and ruin for thousands of years upon an innocent progeny. Am I right? If so, I am not guilty of sacrilege. If you think I am wrong, why, "you have to show me."

What I have said elsewhere in this book, I here repeat: Christ was not a Socialist. And nowhere between the lids of the Bible is there to be found the slightest reference to the principles of Socialism. Indeed, not an author of a book of the Bible, or a prophet or patriarch of old, seemed to realize that the human family had adopted and was adhering to a political and economic system that was the direct cause of practically all the sins they were trying to abolish without removing the cause. (Something like the Keeley cure, with the saloons licensed and running wide open.)

In conclusion I will add that the story of the fall of man, through the disobedience of Adam and Eve, has been used as a shield for private ownership, the profit system, competition, capitalism and commercialism quite long enough, and should be torn away to reveal the archdemon and creator of all sin in his hideous nakedness. Plain speaking is always commendable. I have no doubt that man, along with the animal and vegetable kingdoms, deteriorated, and that evolution means restoration through the operation of the law of heredity to the former perfection. Moreover, I am sure that the cause of the deterioration of man was the cut-throat system he

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adopted at the beginning and persistently maintained to the present time. I am sure that under a co-operative system the human family today would be highly civilized and, through an enlightened treatment of animals and plants, they would not have deteriorated. For instance, the horse, cow, sheep, hog, poultry, etc., would have been superior to the finest strains we have today, and Luther Burbank would never have been heard of as a plant wizard.

Reader, if you think it possible to Christianize the world under the system, read this remarkable statement which appeared in the current issue of the Christian Herald:

"From the Christian era till the present time, as statists and historians tell us, there have been less than 240 warless years. Up to the middle of the nineteenth century it was roughly computed that nearly seven billion men had died in battle since the beginning of recorded history, a number equal to almost five times the present estimated population of the globe."

THE BIBLE.

When I began to write this book, I had a number of social, political, economic and scientific errors in mind which it was my purpose to expose, but the fundamental error did not occur to me until I found myself in a tangle of errors which suggested that underlying all was one from which all other errors had originated. I began at once to trace them to their source. As it was said that "all roads lead to Rome," so I found that all errors lead to the fundamental error upon which all governments have been and are founded. I was far from delighted to find that I must tread on sacred ground to discover the origin of human governments as given in the Old Testament. I found that all the governments of the so-called Christian nations of the world originated in Moses' day when "might made right" because it was affirmed that God not only sanctioned but directed the movements of conquering armies that were led to victory through merciless slaughter and pillage.

Here originated the fundamental error, founded upon private ownership of all wealth and by divine right, held by rulers and feudal lords. I followed that error from its inception through the Old Testament, and on through all the incidents of history I had in mind, and I found the underlying principle, namely, private owner-

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ship, threading through all the forms of governments under feudalism, then competition and now capitalism which is the world-wide political and economic system.

It has always been my policy never to tear down where I could not replace with a better structure, which has prompted me in deprecating the spirit of infidelity where it assailed the Bible and Christianity with no other purpose than to destroy that system of religion and leave the wreckage to bewilder and demoralize humanity for all time to come.

I am aware that it is a serious matter to expose the fallacy of the disobedience of Adam and Eve as being responsible for the sins of the world, since the concordance so interrelates the Old and the New Testament as to form what is termed "the plan of salvation." According to the interpretation by all the churches, the Old Testament was the forerunner of the New, foreshadowing in prophecies, burnt offerings, etc., the coming of Christ.

As to my own personal convictions which are based on profound investigation from every angle, I hold that the Old Testament should have nothing whatever to do with Christ's teachings and example which, after all, constitute the sum and substance of practical Christianity. I regard all else between the lids of the Bible as history and mythology that pervert rather than strengthen one's faith in even the inspiration of Jesus Christ. I do not hesitate to say that, if the Old Testament had never been translated and, in the translation of the New Testament, cancelled all reference to it, the "plan of salvation" would have been unassailable. It is the concordance with the Old Testament that has played havoc with the nations of the world since the crucifixion. By implicating the Creator as the instigator of merciless wars for pillage and plunder, rulers who claimed from Moses' example the divine right to rule, laid claim to that right in justifying their course in their flagrant abuse of power. In the Old Testament they could find justification for merciless oppression of the people, for barbarity in wars and even for crimes if perpetrated in the name of the Lord.

In recent years Brigham Young founded the Mormon church in Utah largely on the doctrines of the Old Testament by instituting the practice of polygamy, exacting tithing from the membership, covenant marriages, etc. It will be remembered that the "Mountain Meadow Massacre" was perpetrated in the name of the Lord. Even as I write, rulers and leaders in the great European war are claiming that they have the help of the Lord to lead them through slaughter to victory. And the purpose back of the conflict is such as would shame all the devils in the old orthodox hell.

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I say, cut out the Old Testament, revise the New until there is not left the slightest reference to it because of its abominable teachings; then we would have a clean Bible that would be spiritually uplifting.

GRAVITATION AND OTHER ERRORS.

Sir Isaac Newton was a great mathematician, but not a philosopher. His theory of gravitation has a purely mathemtaical basis, which itself is founded upon assumptions. The philosophy of gravitation as given in the text books on physics, affords no proof whatever of the existence of gravitation. The philosophy is based on the absurd assumption that rest is the normal condition of "matter" when, in fact, there is no such condition in existence as rest. Upon this glaring assumption of "rest," or inertia, rests the whole mathematical superstructure of gravitation.

I hold that to assume a "tendency" to a condition that never existed is an absurdity. If, as we are taught, there is no such condition as rest, then it follows as an axiom that motion is the normal and self-evident condition of what we term "matter." Now, if that proposition is correct, and it is self-evident, then how the necessity for gravitation? We are taught that "matter" is absolutely imponderable (weighs nothing), and that the heavenly bodies meet with no resistance, so that, if their motions are their normal condition, as imponderable bodies they require no holding force whatever to keep them in their places. The orbit of a heavenly body (this earth, for instance) is its natural path of annular motion.

A moment's thought will expose the error into which Newton and his followers have fallen. They failed to detach their minds from the impression that bodies have weight. The ancients so believed and taught, and Newton conceived the theory that instead of the earth resting upon a material foundation, it was held in place by invisible ties of support distributed through space which he termed "gravitation."*

*Here are some pertinent remarks on gravitation by the astronomer, Garrett P. Serviss:

"It must be frankly confessed that we do not in the least know what gravitation is, nor precisely how it acts, and, further, that there are certain puzzling facts which have led some scientific minds to doubt whether the "law" of gravitation, as it has been stated ever since Newton's time, may not be slightly different from what it has been assumed to be.

"That there may be something besides gravitation acting upon the planets as they circle in their orbits seems quite possible, but the time has not yet come to proclaim a new law in its place."

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The conception of Newton is as material as that of the ancients. Both theories presuppose weight as a condition of "matter." Else why the necessity of any means of support for the heavenly bodies? Archimedes, the ancient mathematican, said he could figure out the length of a lever by which he could move the earth. Modern mathematicians have figured out the number of pounds the earth weighs. It seems almost impossible to divorce the human mind from the impression that bodies are heavy in proportion to their mass. Get your mind absolutely free from that impression, and you will begin to see the utter fallacy of the theory of gravitation.

All apparatus used to illustrate the action of what is termed "centrifugal" and "centripetal force," as applied to the motions of the heavenly bodies, are material, and the evidence shown is utterly lacking in analogy. A body whirled about the head at the end of a cord pulls away from the center. Why? For the simple reason that the body is forced to do so by the energy imparted to it, the resistance of the air and the attraction of the earth. Now, as the heavenly bodies meet with no resistance, where, I ask, is the analogy? If the resistance of the air and the attraction of the earth were removed, would a holding force be required to keep the body whirled about the head in an orbit? If you tell me it would leave its orbit if liberated, and fly away in a straight line, I will ask you why? We are taught that "a body in motion has no power to cease moving or to change its direction or velocity." Very well, then, why should an imponderable body moving in an orbit free from all resistance fly away from a center in a tangent? Why? This is common-sense philosophy but it is unanswerable.

Fact is, the entire universe from electrone to sun is in perpetual motion, and all motions are circular. Magnetic action is circular, and electricity rotates in a spiral around a conductor. "The curve is the line of beauty," because light falls in curves on the eye. The air, ocean currents, evaporation from the waters of the earth and precipitation in rain, snow and dew; the sap of the vegetable kingdom and the blood of the animal kingdom—all have a circular action. The universe knows no rest and no straight line. The tangent is the line of error, the circle the emblem of reality of truth. The Cross and the Crown—emblematic of Error and Truth—reveal the spiritual significance of my discovery, for mine is as copyrighted years ago.

The cross is a disagreeable combination of straight lines; the crown, pleasing to the eye, is emblematic of the forms and motions of the material universe, and is doubtless a spiritual emblem.

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It is often as easy to be led away into error as it is to leave a circle in a tangent. There is a point that is either the point of a circle or the point of a tangent. It is first where the tangent joins the circle. The next point, however, is either truth or error depending on whether we are following the circle or straight line which would be difficult to detect. Thus, we may easily stray from the truth in our theorizing and wander far out in a tangent of error without realizing it.

Newton founded his theory of gravitation in the tangent, by assuming that all things tend to a state of rest. To bolster up the theory, he was forced to continue his assumptions, thus going farther and farther away in a tangent. To fortify the theory, higher mathematics was resorted to, and a collossal mathematical superstructure was framed up by himself and followers.

By way of making myself understood, I will state that what is termed gravity is in fact, magnetism. That the earth is a vast magnet, has been accepted by the scientific world since Gilbert announced his discovery in the sixteenth century. But Faraday announced after exhausting all efforts in the vain search for the slightest evidence of the existence of a force termed "gravity," that no trace of it could be found, and that to suppose a force could exist separate and apart from other forces was to him inconceivable.*

Faraday evidently repudiated the theory of gravitation from an experimental standpoint, which goes far as a practical proof that the theory is without foundation in fact.

In passing, I will here give a hint of nature's harmony of motion: Magnetic and electric lines of force rotate from left to right, looking in the direction of their flow. This is clearly demonstrated by the well known experiment of "magnetic and electric rotation." Plant growth develops in the same form, that is, from left to right looking in the direction of the growth. As evidence, all trees with twisting grain, twist from left to right and, without exception all climbing vines twine around a support from left to right.

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*In his treatise on gravitation, "Principia," Newton made it quite clear that he was by no means certain that gravity existed as a force. He stated that he used the terms "gravity" and "force" interchangeably, as mathematical terms, without regard to whether or not such a force as gravity was in existence. In other words, he was juggling with higher mathematics.

So with Darwin. He classified the bones of animals belonging to the various geological periods, but it was Huxley and his school of scientists who formulated the theory of evolution embracing the halucination of "the descent of man." Thus Newton was a mathematician and Darwin was a naturalist, but neither of them was a philosopher. Neither did they profess to be.

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All normally developed people are right-handed which necessitates the construction of machinery and other appliances to operate from left to right. We read from left to right, and we have the mechanism of all clocks and watches so constructed that the hands turn from left to right.

Verily, nature is harmonious in all the activities of her complex system. Circular motion is normal and never conflicting. It is utterly absurd to suppose there is a "tendency" to a state or condition that does not and cannot exist. It seems to me that it is going a long way in a tangent to conjure up such an absurdity to bolster up the theory of gravitation. But it proved to be a source of gratification to mathematicians who, like Newton and all other mathematicians are deficient in those intellectual gifts that characterize the philosopher.

It is not to be wondered at, however, that Newton philosophized in a tangent. His mistake is in line with the fundamental mistake made at the beginning which has kept, and still keeps, the human family in a tangent of errors. The competitive system, in all its variations, operates in a tangent. Based upon private ownership it must of necessity operate for personal profit and the profit system is a tangent from the revolving or co-operative system which operates without profit. Let us instance the postal system. It operates without profit and is, therefore, a revolving system. Were it under private ownership and, of course operated for profit, then it would not be a revolving system, would it? If not a revolving system what would it be? There are only two continuous lines without angles and they are the circle and the straight line. Then, if the profit system (competition), is not a revolving system, it must of necessity be a straight line system. Is that conclusive? Think it over.

Having shown that the prevailing economic system operates in a tangent or straight line, I will proceed to make clear as possible the fact that the theory of evolution known as "Darwinism" was formulated in a tangent. The theory assumes that what it terms "links," connecting the species, form an unbroken chain in the evolution of animal life. In other words, in the "dawn animal" was implanted the germ of all animal life, and by successive evolutions corresponding with the geological periods, that germ developed all the varied species and "links" of animal creation including man. Now, that unbroken chain of "the descent of man," must of necessity represent a straight line from the dawn animal to man. Thus we have a contradiction to the law that water will rise no higher than its source. The dawn animal was the source—man the highest development and capable of a still higher development! That rep-

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resents a straight line evolution. If, however, we regard the geological development of the earth as marked by periods representing a revolving system by which higher developments of plants and animals were evolved from period to period from the gradually improving condition of the earth, we will readily see that the malformations of animals intervening the distinct species as they were introduced, were not "links," but abnormal formations due to the abnormal condition of the earth. The earth evolved all plant and animal life, and the degree of perfection was dependent upon the condition of the earth at the time of their introduction. Had the geological periods of the earth's development been sharply drawn there would have been no so-called "links" intervening distinct species. Thus each and every species including man, was and is distinct, having no connection whatever one with another.

AN OPEN CHAPTER.

To the Leading Politicians of America.

Gentlemen: Not one of you is sincere in your pretentions that economic and industrial conditions can be reformed and made tolerable under the present capitalist system. I make no exception, not even shielding the President of the United States from censure. Indeed, the more stainless the private reputation and public record, the greater the hypocrisy and the more dangerously misleading the political influence.

You men, to whom this chapter is addressed, are all versed in ancient and modern history, and must know that history repeats itself from one single cause, and that cause is, fundamentally, the competitive system. Based upon unrestricted private ownership and attended by a merciless profit system intensified by insatiable greed, you are certainly aware of the fact, patent to any thoughtful person, that no form of government can be devised that could hold the mastery over economic and industrial conditions created by commercial pirates who, rightfully under the system, secure the ownership and control of all the sources of independent subsistence. You know, Democratic and Republican politicians alike, that already this nation, still in its infancy in years, is prematurely old and hastening to an untimely end. You know that all efforts put forth by the three last, and present, administrations to reform abuses have proven abortive. You know full well that capitalism has the mastery in that

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it practically owns and absolutely controls all the wealth and commercial interests of the nation. Being politicians, you fear the chastening rod of capitalism that would surely be inflicted upon you should you honestly attempt to introduce drastic reforms. A panic would be precipitated by the combined money power which would speedily prejudice the voters against you, thereby defeating your ambition to remain great national leaders. Not one of you has shown a willingness to suffer political martyrdom for the welfare of your country. Your whole political career has been marked by pretense, venturing inch by inch as the people advanced, goaded by the merciless exactions of predatory wealth. But when the old juggernaut of plutocracy approached uncomfortably near, you quietly and diplomatically receded from your aggressiveness. Roosevelt knew when to let up, and Wilson has doubtless learned that, after all, in the last analysis, he is little more than a figurehead. To be elected President, after filling McKinley's unexpired term, Roosevelt had to promise capitalists through Harriman to "be good," and, to be re-elected President, Wilson will be compelled to "eat the same old crow."

Your predecessors added treachery to deception in playing the high protective tariff bunco game on their poor, deluded followers who were misled by "Protection to American Industries" and "Protection to American Labor," slogans cunningly and adroitly used to enthuse the people. The reforms you are now contending for are to undo the damage wrought by that unspeakable tariff.

The floodgates of immigration were thrown wide open through which organized capital flooded the country with degraded labor. Practically unrestricted immigration was, just prior to the European war, still swarming into this country, the low-class Greek, Italian, Hindu, Jap and Chinese taking the places of American labor for the reason that it is cheaper and more servile. The pretense has been and still is that broad, liberal, magnanimous statesmanship proclaims to the world a doctrine of brotherhood which would afford to the downtrodden and oppressed of other nations a refuge in this "land of the free and home of the brave."

I deliberately brand all such pretense as the vilest hypocracy, and affirm that the whole scheme was instigated by the "captains of industry," and you, gentlemen, know this to be true.

Moreover, you still tolerate a system of commercial robbery of the people by permitting a combination of pirates, known as speculators and middlemen, to fix market values of the necessaries of life, thereby exploiting both the producer and consumer by a system of plain daylight robbery. Some of you have much to say about

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"conserving our resources," but not one of you has lifted his voice against the systematic robbery of the people by prices of the necessaries of life inflated by pirates who would have the people enthuse over "Old Glory," the "Liberty Bell," and make the welkin ring with "My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing."

Much has been said and but little done to curb big business from operating in restraint of trade. Nothing has been said by any administration about prosecuting little business for operating in restraint of trade. Nor has anything been done to suppress gambling in the necessaries of life, or to put an end to the crime of forcing up the prices on the necessaries of life. Neither has any "reform" politician suggested industrial legislation to the end that the problem of the unemployed be solved.

I therefore suggest that drastic laws be adopted making it a penal offense for the proprietors of any business, little or big, to operate in restraint of trade. Also make it a crime to gamble or speculate in the necessaries of life, or to force up prices of the same.

Then it would be necessary to secure the appropriation of $5,872,465,200 for the purpose of building penitentiaries for the housing of the convicted business men, which would be practically every one in the United States. The merchants' associations of all the towns and cities, the wholesalers' and retailers' league, the gamblers in the necessaries of life, all trusts and corporations, including the money power, would all be subject to criminal prosecution. If convicted, vast penitentiaries would be required to hold them.

And this is no joke. Every sensible person knows that it is utterly impossible for competition on a big or little scale to live in the United States. That condition is real capitalism, and only by the restraint of trade can the system of capitalism exist. By adopting such laws as I have here suggested, their rigid enforcement would so thin out the population as to automatically solve the unemployed problem.

I make these suggestions to remind you, gentlemen, that you are not fooling all the people by the pretended prosecution of the trusts, for I am one of the people, and "there are others."

What excuse do you offer for your neglect to enact laws for the protection of labor in the industrial field? You are aware of the appalling loss of life through the criminal negligence of employers in not providing for their employes safeguards against accidents and disaster. You have repeatedly read the sickening details of mine and factory disasters which could have been prevented by the "captains of industry," and you fail to legally compel them to do so because you evidently regard labor as a short of chattel, and you have no use

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for the toiler except on election day, when you entice him into the political bunco game with the promise of a "full dinner pail" which never materializes.

You know, gentlemen, that the majority of the voters are a herd of jackasses else they would speedily drive you out of the councils of the nation as righteously as Christ drove the money changers from the temple because they were making of it a den of thieves.

No man could long remain a national political leader and be sincere in his professions of fidelity to the people. While capitalists are fully aware of their power under the system, they nevertheless fear the man of ability and unswerving integrity lest he finally lead the people out of economic and industrial oppression—out from under the capitalist system. The captains of industry have no fear of reforms under their system. It is what reforms may lead to that inspires their opposition. It is the fear of a popular turning toward Social Democracy that alarms plutocracy.

Now, you know, as every well informed man should know, that the system most feared by capitalism is the one that should be adopted for the good and sufficient reason that it is the only remedy for the economic and industrial abuses that are a menace to the very life of the nation. I say, you know that to be a fact, but you dare not breathe it in the faintest whisper to a living soul.

On behalf of the Great Common People of America, of whom I am classed as one, I warn you, gentlemen, of the danger of the gathering forces of discontent that appear to be slumbering under the pressure of injustice and economic oppression. I earnestly warn you that you are resting in false security over a slumbering industrial volcano that imperils the nation. Look well to your own personal safety should the forces burst forth in seething lava of hatred and revenge. No guilty man would escape the fury of disorganized mobocracy. Be warned!

LIMIT OF PROFIT FROM PRIVATE OWNERSHIP.

What is the limit of actual profit from private ownership? It is easy to see that when one has a competency—enough money and wealth to satisfy all our desires and to secure all comforts and such luxuries as are not hurtful—in fact, have abundance of everything needful and an income that would insure us against all "rainy days"—we have surely reached the limit.

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When Commodore Vanderbilt was asked by a friend, who longed to become wealthy, the secret of his success, Vanderbilt replied by asking his friend if he would like to take charge of his affairs and go through the worry and labor required to keep them going, for his board and clothes, such as he had. His friend promptly "turned down the job," whereupon Vanderbilt remarked that that was all the pay he could possibly get out of all of his wealth.

In view of the fact that Vanderbilt made it clear to his friend, why is it that millionaires will strive for millions more? No man can expend one million dollars in a long lifetime without lavish extravagance. Why then, does he want two, ten, twenty, a hundred millions, "and then some"?

We say, he is actuated by greed. Well, greed has much to do with urging him on, but the satisfaction derived from the possession of great wealth is purely imaginary. There is, in fact, no reality in the enjoyment a millionaire derives from his imaginary importance. The power of wealth is such that people treat him with deference, and thousands fawn at his feet, but there are doubtless times when he realizes that he has few if any bosom friends. He knows that he has enemies, and that he is often in danger of assassination. Still he takes a strange enjoyment out of it all, and his egotism gives him a feeling of self-sufficiency that extols him in his own imagination.

Now, the fact is, the magnates who own and operate all the public utilities and industries do not realize that they are, in fact, servants of the people. The proof is clear. Let us say they own and operate a railroad system. Well, the people who patronize it get all the benefit derived from it in transportation of freight and travel. They pay for it all, it is true, but what value has the money to men who already have millions? The answer is, to loan or invest in other railroads. Very well; then what? Why, they derive a profit which adds to their millions. Well, what of it? They pursue that course to the end of their career, when they have a big funeral, and that is the end! No; not the end of the investment. The people still have the benefit of the railroad, and those who borrowed the money have the use of it, so where did the dead millionaire profit from it all?

The millionaire manufacturer makes his profit on clothing or groceries, and the people get all the actual benefit that can be derived in the use of the goods or groceries. They get clothing and food for their money, and the millionaire manufacturer gets the money, which can be of no possible benefit to him. It is, in fact, a detriment, as it adds to his already wearisome burdens which exhaust his energy and shorten his life.

Still, the millionaire clings to the apparition that haunts his greedy soul. The hypnotic spell of that strange longing for millions

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and more millions has lured him on to build better than he knew. To acquire the millions he becomes a servant of the people for all time for at the end of life's brief span he leaves a legacy of the wealth he has caused to be created for the benefit of the people. Stanford, Crocker and Huntington died as the poor mendicant who begged pennies by the wayside, yet they were the pathfinders of the great Southern Pacific Railway system that now is, and will continue to be, a benefit to the people.

Rockefeller is bowed with age and, like an old, faithful slave, has served his master well, for millions of people enjoy the benefit of lamps lighted by refined kerosene which is delivered to them through a wonderful system of his own creation. His declining years have been beset by torturous vindictiveness, and the skeleton of assassination, gaunt and grim-visaged, is in his closet. Who does not pity the poor old man whose fabulous wealth is a curse to his declining years?

And in a larger degree those captains of industry build better than they know, for they have so systematized the facilities of transportation, production and distribution and the use of all public utilities as to make them ready for the coming of the co-operative system. Herein lies the greatest value of the life work of the captains of industry.

SIMPLICITY OF SOCIALISM.

To my mind, long drawn out argument, "splitting a hair a mile long," to prove the error, weakness and fallacy of our economic and industrial system, is utterly absurd. Besides, such argument dignifies the competitive system by making it appear very difficult if not impossible to prove that it is erroneous. Whereas, it stands out in the open condemned by all history and the present demoralized condition of the world. Any one who fails to realize that fact should be sent to the home for the feeble-minded. The thing needful is not argument, but a clear exposition of Socialism, showing conclusively that its basic principles are in perfect conformity with natural law, which leaves no room for argument. Competition is man-made, artificial; Socialism means the translation of natural law into human governments, institutions and laws. Is man wiser than nature?

To my mind, Socialism is perfect simplicity. There is no room for argument for or against it unless, indeed, one would have the temerity to argue to prove or disprove natural law. For that is all

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there is to Socialism. It is to copy from nature in formulating a system of government, and if no mistake is made in translating natural law into human government, institutions and laws, we would have a perfect government just as the operations of nature are perfect.

Here is the simple illustration: Nature is a vast revolving system, all of her parts working in perfect harmony—an endless round of connections of one part to another, interdependent, interrelated and reciprocal.

Go and examine a machine. Notice the endless connections of wheels, belts, pulleys—all co-operating in perfect harmony because the parts are so adjusted that they all revolve. Hence, a machine is a mechanical revolving system. It conforms to the requirements of natural law and is, therefore, an apt illustration of the operation of nature's intricate mechanism.

Now, let one economic part of our government represent one wheel of the machine; for instance, the railroad systems; the telegraph systems another wheel, the telephone another, a number of wheels for factories, a large number of wheels for the various industries, and so on, including all things that should be collectively owned and operated. (The postal system would fit into the machine perfectly just as it is.) Let a regenerated Uncle Sam be the chief engineer and press the button after the great economic and industrial machine was in perfect running order. Do you have the slightest doubt that it would operate as perfectly as any well constructed machine? You cannot doubt it—there is absolutely no room for doubt.

Of course, you understand, this great machinery of government would be under the immediate supervision of the people, who would own and operate it. The political system would be changed from a representative government to a social democracy. A social democracy is a government over which the people would have absolute control. No authority would be unconditionally delegated to the legislative, executive or judiciary. Abraham Lincoln, who was a Socialist in principle, aptly expressed it in these words, so often quoted by political bunco leaders: "A government by the people, of the people and for the people."

Reader, if you are not a Socialist, read this little chapter over a few times and think over the matter until you become familiar with the great central idea involved, and you cannot fail to see the beauty of Socialism.

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FREE LOVE EXPOSED.

Since Victoria Woodhull and her school of home wreckers advocated free love, others with as little regard for social purity and the sanctity of the home have come into prominence from time to time as advocates of that social system which, if adopted, would ultimately bring the human family down to the level of beasts.

The Woodhull school advocated free love as a means of improving the human race by giving to all a free hand at selection or mating, bound by no marriage tie. It was claimed that the law of heredity demands sexual selection as adopted by fine stock breeders in order to secure the best specimens of manhood and womanhood. That theory ignores MUTUAL LOVE, which the law of heredity exacts of human beings. Doubtless the originators of the theory were ignorant of the law of heredity as applied to human beings, as it seems doubtful if an intelligent person could be so carnal and licentiously sordid as to knowingly advocate a theory that would mean the demoralization of the human family and, in time, bring all down to the level of brute creation.

The theory of evolution known as Darwinism is used by the advocates of free love as "scientific proof" that, since interrelationship exists between the human family and all the creeping and living things on the face of the earth, therefore the law of heredity should operate through all animal creation alike. Physically that law affects all alike, but for mental, moral and spiritual development the law has to do with human beings alone. Here is another "missing link" which, like the famous "missing link" connecting man with his "hairy ancestors," exists in a perverted imagination.

Love is a divine gift to the human race, and upon that foundation rests the sanctity of marriage and the home. With the most perfect physical selection for mating of the sexes, if *mutual love* be lacking, the progeny, though physically perfect, would be deficient intellectually, morally and spiritually. That is a clear, concise interpretation of the law of heredity as applied to the human family.

Courtship is designed by the law of heredity as a means of inkindling the divine flame of love. It is a wise provision for the higher development of real manhood and womanhood. But nature makes no provision for mental development of animals and birds, but there is a provision for physical development according to the requirements of different species. Instead of courting, beasts of prey—dogs, cats, lions, tigers, etc.—fight, which develops the fighting instinct in the offspring; deer have their "running season"

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that their progeny may be fleet footed; birds are on the wing carrying material with which to build their nests, that their offspring may be fleet of wing, and so on throughout the animal kingdom.

But of human beings, the law of heredity requires obedience to but two conditions, namely, *selection of opposite in complexion and temperament* and, most important, *mutual love.*

In this connection I earnestly warn the reader against placing any faith in the craze of "eugenic marriage." It is aimed as a substitute for improving the race through the operation of the natural law of heredity. Be assured that the money power is back of the movement, to the end that the real remedy for the decline of manhood and womanhood—environment and heredity—may be obscured. Capitalism naturally objects to bettering the environment of the common people, since that power is responsible for the bad environment which, you know, cheapens labor. The captains of industry require cheap, degraded labor in their business. "Eugenic marriage," if popularized, would improve the physical development and deplete the intellectual and moral, since the trend of the movement is inevitably toward free love, and that means race suicide with a vengeance.

If each applicant who passed the physical examination were given a phrenological chart with full instructions from a master of that science, it would be a vast improvement. But that would not improve the environment, which must be done, else the race will continue to deteriorate. Be assured that no artificial means can operate as a substitute for natural law.

RACE SUICIDE.

I am conscientious in what I write here upon this subject, and write my convictions freely and without reserve. All history fully justifies all I shall say, and the Bible, in one instance at least, declares that the Christian's God became utterly disgusted with the human family. He is quoted as saying that He "repented that He made man." Noah's flood was a means of race extinction, save Noah and his family. History since Noah, and beginning with his corrupt conduct, justifies the assertion that Noah and his family should have gone with the rest, and another effort made to improve the breed.

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Now, mind you, I say providing the old cut-throat system of competition continued in vogue. As I have said in another chapter, I repeat here, namely, that all the abuses, evils and vices, together with all tyranny and oppression, are traceable directly to that system. The only possible excuse the human family can offer is that the hog element in the construction of man should have been left out, since greed is the cause of all of "man's inhumanity to man."

Nevertheless, attach the blame where we may, the fact remains that up to date, June, 1915, the human family as a whole from the beginning has been and is a dead waste of raw material. Millions and millions have come and gone, and what of it all? To use the miners' phrase, what is the "clean-up?" As I write, all the great nations of Europe are at war, the most destructive, merciless and even barbarous the world has ever known. Just prior to the war economic and industrial conditions were intolerable. Millions were out of employment and reduced to beggary. Labor unions and the Socialist party were rapidly gaining strength, foreshadowing the doom of capitalism, and with it rulers and leaders who are its sole dependence. Therefore a war of extermination became necessary to deplete the population and to destroy property so that employment under the same old system could be given to all that survived the war. As a result the labor unions and Socialist movement would be defeated, temporarily, at least, giving ample time for plutocracy to fortify itself against renewed agitation for reforms.

Now, I declare to you that if a change from capitalism were impossible, then war were preferable to continued oppression that forebode a fate such as the human family endured during the dark ages.

Still better would have been race suicide for those who suffer from poverty and hunger in peace, or endure the terrors of war. Who will gainsay this terrible truth? Who will deny that it were better that the millions of abject poor, together with the millions who lose their lives in barbarous wars, were never born? Better, I say, a thousand times better!

What is the problem of human life? Can it be solved by history repeating itself over and over again in sickening recitals of national calamities and disastrous overthrow of civilization? What think you is the supreme purpose of creation? Was man designed to be the king of beasts, or God made manifest in the flesh? What is the purpose of living at all? Is it to "propagate and rot"? Does history give the highest purpose for which the human family was brought into existence? Prove to me that this is true and I will prove by his works that there really exists a personal devil and that he is the

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creator. History attests that human devils have had most to do with making history, and the inference might be construed to indicate the leadership of "his satanic majesty." To be plain spoken, I should say that a God of wisdom, love and mercy would repudiate man who, "dressed in a little brief authority, plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven as make angels weep."

Well, if the condition of the human family is not to be improved —if to live is but a farce and to die a hopeless tragedy—if we are to continue the slaves of greed and blind worshipers at the shrine of Mammon—then it were better that the whole human family be blotted off the face of the earth. Under the prevailing conditions, and the conditions of all the past, race suicide is fully justified.

The conditions of human life would be bad enough under the very best political and economic conditions. Nature's terrors—the earthquake, volcano, cyclone and tempest, together with the myriad disease germs and disease-bearing germs, and the standard diseases to which flesh is heir, and the problem of the hereafter—these inflictions and afflictions are enough to be borne, but when is added "man's inhumanity to man," which is a thousand times worse, why, sir, race suicide is a long way preferable to enduring all to no conceivable purpose.

I say in all candor that if the human family will not turn away from the cut-throat system of competition to one of social democracy, then let us clear ourselves of the responsibility for bringing into the world those who at best will find little or no pleasure in living, and at the worst—well, it may be to drag out a miserable existence in drudgery and helpless poverty as millions do, or be slaughtered or wounded in the terrors of war. I ask, is life worth the living under such conditions?

Here is an old man and woman, decrepit with age. They have done their part toiling to heap up wealth for others. They have eight or ten children, well advanced in years, who are "in the harness" and "pulling hard against a cold collar." Their twenty-five or thirty grandchildren are beginning a life of toil, and forty or fifty great grandchildren who will soon be entering the industrial field. Now, what of it all? Can the old man and woman feel that they have lived to any purpose other than to bring more poverty, toil and hardships into the world? And this picture is not overdrawn. It is taken from real life among the millions of poor. Do you tell me that race suicide is not far preferable to such conditions? If you dispute this, then you are more animal than human.

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WHAT IS CIVILIZATION?

A great many people believe that the leading nations have reached a high state of civilization. Many who should know the real definition of the word "civilization" hold to that belief. The impression that civilization means material progress seems to prevail. The wonderful strides of inventions that have practically supplanted the slow process of hand labor in factories, shops and a thousand other places, railroads, telegraph, telephone, wireless telegraph, X-ray, radium, the bicycle, motorcycle, automobile and air crafts, are cited as evidence of advanced civilization.

While it is true that the most enlightened nations have made wonderful material progress during the past half century, yet the stubborn fact "butts in" to expose the abuses resulting from the private ownership and operation of all the invented machinery and devices which in turn have resulted in the monopoly of the facilities of transportation and communication, all public utilities, the facilities of production giving private control of all important industries and the markets, leaving the producer, consumer and wage earner at the mercy of greedy trusts, monopolies and syndicates. Millions have been thrown out of employment by lavor saving machinery and devices, tending to enslave labor and impoverish the producer and consumer. Indeed, the entire economic and industrial system is a cowardly hold-up from start to finish.

This is a brief summary of the results of the boasted material progress which is cited as evidence of a high state of civilization. What do you think of it? Do you think that civilization consists in permitting private monopolies to exploit the toiler, producer and consumer—everybody, in fact, but the wealthy? Do you think that a nation is civilized that is dominated by commercial cannibals who, through their nefarious business methods, reduce millions to poverty, enforced idleness and crime? Is a nation civilized wherein greed prostitutes manhood and debases womanhood by placing a premium on successful dishonesty? Is a nation civilized whose jails, prisons and asylums are overcrowding with inmates? Where it becomes necessary to enact laws to prohibit the manufacture of poisonous drugs and medicines, and the adulteration of food with poisonous ingredients? Can you say that the rich and influential criminals guilty of such atrocity are civilized?

Is a nation civilized which maintains a ruler—king, emperor, czar or by any other title—and a great number of royal bummers, all

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at enormous cost to its people, who submit to arbitrary and despotic rule? Is our own nation, which is termed a republic, but which, in fact, is a limited oligarchy, civilized when organized capital, created largely by the protective tariff and special legislation, influences national legislation by bribery and intimidation? Is our nation civilized when it affords no protection to labor and makes no provision for the army of unemployed? Civilized, you say, when the Federal Government regards property interests as more sacred than the rights of labor? Where market gambling in the necessaries of life is tolerated in its open and shameless robbery of the people?

A "Christian nation," indeed! Why, sir, at best we are not half civilized. Listen while I tell you of a true state of civilization: A popular government founded by and for all the people. A co-operative system, insuring to all the full products of their labor. No land titles, but the tiller of the soil would be secure in a home under a just leasing system formulated and adopted by the people. Profit, interest and rent would find no place in a system of social democracy. The people would rule through the operation of the initiative, referendum, recall and imperative mandate.

The system would be very simple. All railroads, telegraph and telephone systems, all factories, shops and mines, and, in fact, all public utilities would be owned and operated by the government just as the postal system is now operated. For instance, Ford gives half of the profits derived from the sale of his automobiles to his employes. Well, under a system of social democracy he would superintend just as he does now and, not half, but all of the profits would go to all that worked, including Mr. Ford. So with a railroad system. All who are engaged in operating it receive salaries and wages, officials and all. There need be no one discharged under public ownership, but it is probable wages and salaries would be increased, for, you know, the profit system would be eliminated. Instead of the wages and salaries being paid from the office of the railroad magnates, a regenerated Uncle Sam would foot the bills.

Under such a system premiums would all be for honesty and efficiency rather than for successful rascality as now. The hours of labor would be reduced one-half, giving leisure for reading, recreation and enjoyment. Being free from the bondage of competition, there would be no business jealousy or rivalry. As the interests of all would be mutual and co-operative, the spirit of fellowship, free from clannishness, would prevail. Then brotherly love—the dream of humanity for centuries—would be realized.

Such, in brief, is the system, and only system, upon which a real civilization may be founded.

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THE MEANEST CREATURE ON EARTH.

Who or what is it? Well, I know from a knowledge of history, from observation and from personal experience. History tells us that "man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn," and it is true. Now, the creature of whom I shall write in this chapter was, and is, the cause of that inhumanity. He has much the appearance of a human being, but, in the highest sense, he is not. He so outclasses the fiercest beast of prey that there is no comparison. He disproves the theory of a personal devil, since he and his class are all there is to hell, which they create right here on earth.

Members of that class have come and gone—gone, doubtless, into outer darkness where there is weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth—and they left a legacy of damnation that has been handed down from generation to generation. They are more numerous now than ever before in the history of the world. They are known by a number of titles, such as "millionaire," "multi-millionaire," "magnate" and "captain of industry."

He is an abnormal product of the law of heredity by reason of a parental environment of nefarious schemes incited by sordid greed. It is said that poets are born and not made. So with the creature of whom I write. His only mental gift equips him as an exploiter and he is a genius in that line. As geniuses are usually dull in everything else except that for which they have an abnormal gift, so with this creature of greed. He is usually below the average intellectually, and is well-nigh destitute of moral faculties. He can truly say with Napoleon Bonaparte that he cannot understand an honest, unselfish man, from the fact that he has no moral standard by which to judge.

His class has done the world more harm than all things else combined. To gain his wealth, he has exploited the toiler, the producer and the consumer, and without the slightest compunction or mercy forced his weaker competitors into bankruptcy and ruin. He employs the ablest legal advisors to engineer his nefarious schemes, and the secretary in his office is under instructions to use every deception of which he is capable in answering business correspondence, particularly when there is a fat bargain to drive.

He has at his command a bunch of lieutenants who are bright little devils, but who haven't the genius for exploiting, so must "play the second fiddle," And along down the line he has "staked out" little helpers who are glad to get the crumbs that fall from their master's table. In addition, he has at his feet the fawning multitude of mutts who are ready to "crouch and cower like the belabored hound beneath his master's lash."

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Now, from his throne of wealth, heaped up by toiling thousands, he issues orders down the line and "you bet" they are obeyed. He rules with an iron rod and cloven fist. His class is "the power behind the throne" in every nation. Nations have rulers and presidents, but the commercial cannibals are the boss when it comes to a "show down." By their dishonest business methods and by economic and industrial oppression which they create, thousands become dishonest through imitation, and thousands more are forced into rascality, trickery and crime.

To secure the passage of laws favorable to their interests they have corrupted legislative bodies and, to defeat the execution of objectionable laws, courts have been bribed, and when bribery failed, they have resorted to intimidation. They—organized capital—have carried elections by bribery, fraud and intimidation. Notably the election of McKinley for the purpose of permanently establishing the gold standard which, by depleting the currency, gave to predatory wealth a free hand at exploiting the human family upon a scale unparalleled in the history of the world. The demonetization of silver was the result of a concerted movement of the capitalists of all nations and was one of the most outrageous crimes ever perpetrated against humanity.

That class is responsible for nearly all wars and, since the world has come under the domination of capitalism, they hold the "sinews of war" in finance and in the equipment of all war material for the army. Through loaning money to warring nations and equipping their armies with implements of slaughter, they heap up vast fortunes, and succeed in getting rid of a surplus population that, by reason of poverty and unemployment, might become a disturbing and dangerous element.

They glory in poverty if it cheapens labor, rejoice in misfortune if it falls to the lot of those whom they have exploited, and exult in the ruin of weaker competitors. Crime is a joke if it is adjudged to one of that class, and murder is justified by them if it be inflicted upon striking working men who demand their rights.

I have heard Socialist speakers declare that men should not be condemned since the competitive system is to blame. I am aware that the system is back of it all, but to exonerate commercial cannibals and pirates from blame when they have wilfully created the capitalist system through which to oppress and demoralize humanity for gain—I say, away with such Socialist speakers! Give us men who will condemn the system and "set the hair" on its creators.

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BIG AND LITTLE BUMMERS.

Classified, the world's bummers rank from the crowned heads and rulers of nations and their multitude of royal bummers, known as lords, dukes, earls, etc., together with all capitalists and speculators, down the line to the ordinary bummer who lounges around and "never misses a meal or pays a cent." I classify all people—men and women—bummers who do not actually earn by useful service the money they spend for personal expenses, be that little or much.

Fundamentally it is an economic axiom that labor creates all wealth. That being true, all who possess wealth secured it in some manner from labor. Now, if that wealth was really earned by useful service, the possessor is honestly entitled to it, otherwise he is not entitled to it and is, therefore, a bummer. That's the whole proposition in a nutshell.

There are multitudes who perform service—for themselves—but of no benefit or usefulness whatever. The ruler keeps pretty busy keeping his subjects under subjection and is, therefore, doing more harm than good. He draws his princely income from the earnings of labor, which is exploited by legal process. Hence, the ruler and his royal family are bummers, for they earn nothing and are an obstruction to political and economic progress.

Capitalists and speculators without exception are bummers. They exploit labor whether wage earner or producer, and laws are so framed as to legalize the process. If stripped of all the wealth they have exploited, millionaires would be left penniless. It is barely possible there may be an exception; if so, it proves the rule.

The capitalist who inherits his wealth is innocent of the charge of exploitation, but he is a bummer just the same unless he earns his living by useful service. But the wealth he inherited was exploited, for it is impossible to acquire great wealth without accumulating it from the hard earnings of labor. Ford gives his employes one-half of the net income from the sale of his automobiles, which is a practical admission that they are entitled to it, and I venture the assertion that if Ford would open his heart to a candid confession, he would admit that his employes are entitled to all, excepting a salary for his services as general superintendent. Whether he would confess it or not, it is a fact, nevertheless.

Now, I am dealing with straight, honest, undeniable facts and not with prevailing conditions that may appear logical because of our familiarity with them. "Familiarity blunts the edges of our perceptions," so blunt that it often becomes difficult to grasp the truth.

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Fact is, few men are capable of detached or abstract thinking, and women are well nigh a blank in that respect. To arrive at the actual truth through the process of reasoning, it frequently becomes necessary to detach one's self from what, for any reason, may appear to be true, and think in the abstract. As, for instance, all objects around us appear to possess the property of color. We speak of things being red, blue, green, etc., when in fact, light alone has the property of color, and the color is reflected in the light from the object. It required detached thinking to discover that fact.

So, thinking superficially, and influenced by our familiarity with competition, that system may appear to be logical, and therefore, the toiler entitled only to the wage arbitrarily fixed by the employer who is entitled to all the toiler has earned for him as "profit on his investment." The profit system is the basic principle of competition without which competition would be impossible. By substituting co-operation for competition, the profit system would be abolished and then, you see, the toiler would get the full product of his labor. Then there would be no exploiting of labor and no high-class "bums." "Catch on"?

Now, let us look into the matter a little deeper and we will find that the majority of business men of every description are bummers. To make this assertion a tangible fact, we will take as a basis the manner and method by which the business of a town of say 5000 population should be conducted. From one large department store fully equipped for the purpose, goods and commodities could be easily supplied to all the inhabitants. Well, why not such an institution supplant the numerous stores carrying dry goods, groceries, shoes, hardware, etc., some of them pulling along "by the skin of the teeth"? Of course, you understand, the department store would be a co-operative institution and therefore would run no "skin game" in dealing with the public. From this viewpoint you should be able to see that the numerous proprietors, clerks and dependents now living off the community are bummers pure and simple. As a matter of fact, even as it is, half the number of stores would be ample to supply all the goods the community requires, so that half the proprietors, clerks and dependents are really bummers right now.

As to real estate men, mine promoters and all others who run "skin games," they are bummers without any visible means of support except to fleece their victims.

So in the last analysis the laborer, bearing all the burden, is not exactly a draft horse, but he is a jackass, and has no better sense than to do all the fighting in all the wars. And when a war is over, all that survive return to resume a life of toil that bummers may continue to live in luxury and ease.

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PITHY POINTERS.

In enterprises and movements of great moment, men build better than they know, and often better than they intend. Under the prevailing system, men are actuated by selfish motives in every undertaking. A great railroad system is built up and equipped for personal gain, yet the people of today and for generations to come derive all the real benefits resulting from its operation.

The present great war in Europe may result in a political and economic revolution, although the instigators never dreamed of such a result. The primary object of the war was to deplete the overcrowding numbers of the unemployed and, by the destruction of property, give employment, at the conclusion of the war, to all the survivors for many years to come. There was a growing spirit of unrest, and danger of the political supremacy of the Socialist party which, to circumvent and more firmly entrench the ruling class, necessitated the war.

It seems, however, to successfully carry on the war, it became necessary to socialize all of the important industries and to aid the world-wide movement for temperance by restrictive measures that are well-nigh prohibitory. Now, if Socialism and temperance become entrenched by those war measures, then the awful sacrifice of life and the destruction of property were not in vain. And such a result may be reasonably anticipated should the war be prolonged, for then it is doubtful if the people would permit a return to the conditions that preceded the war.

It would be a grim joke on the originators and promoters of the war should it finally result in bringing about the very conditions which they had hoped to destroy, and that, when peace shall have been restored, all the industries and public utilities of the nations of Europe would be permanently socialized, with temperance reigning supreme over all. Let us hope and pray for such a result.

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC is about as hard to get rid of in dry territory as it is to kill a cat, which is said to have nine lives. A story is told that illustrates the tenacity for life of the liquor traffic.

A certain man had a worthless cat about the house that he decided to get rid of, so he put it in a sack with a brick and threw it in a pond nearby. Shortly after he noticed the cat walking around not yet dry from the immersion. Determined to get rid of it, he tied its feet, put it in a sack with another brick and threw it into the pond. Again in a short time he noticed the cat going toward the house to get in and dry by the stove. "Well," said he, soliloquizing, "I will get rid of you," and taking the cat to a block he slashed its

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head off with an ax. He then went into the house for some purpose, and in a few minuutes he heard a scratching at the door. Opening it he was amazed to see the cat there holding its head in its mouth, trying to get in.

A GREAT MANY people look up to professional men as all-wise in their professions. For that reason they are "led around by the nose" with "the wool pulled down over their eyes" by unscrupulous politicians and leaders. A good story is told of the supreme faith that such a person had in a doctor. John took suddenly ill and soon sank into apparent unconsciousness. A doctor was quickly summoned and was soon at the bedside diagnosing the case. John's wife was watching and listening in breathless silence, and was shocked when the doctor shook his head and she heard him say in a low voice, "He is dead." It aroused John, who exclaimed: "It's not so. I am not dead at all!" John's wife was shocked at such an insult flung at the doctor, and fairly hissed at John: "Hush, John; the doctors knows more than you do about it!"

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER claims that wealth is a great burden, and all big capitalists agree with him. No doubt that great wealth is burdensome to the owner who is riding on the necks of the people who, in the last analysis, bear all the burdens.

Here is a story that furnishes an appropriate illustration: Pat had been to town on his little mule and was returning with a number of articles tied to the saddle, and on his shoulder a fifty-pound sack of flour. He met a neighbor who suggested that the little mule was too heavily burdened. "No," said Pat, "I'm carrying the sack of flour mesilf."

WOMAN IS A CROSS between an angel and everything you ever heard of in all your life. Some women are mostly angels, but that kind is getting scarce. They were once plentiful years ago before capitalism threw conditions into a state of demoralization. Now there are hundreds of thousands of them in the industrial field and a great many dabbling in the filthy mire of politics led there by a gang of professional agitators, female and male.

Woman is no longer the "weaker sex." She is becoming bold, intrepid, daring, while man is "losing his nip." In recognition of her superior fitness for running things, man denudes his face of the old emblem of masculinity and, if it were possible, thousands of "strong minded" women would be growing beards in less than no time.

Thousands of the fair sex are getting tired of being just one thing forever. It is becoming monotonous and they have a notion to change places with the men. The result is a shrinkage in the annual output of babies for which, under the prevailing conditions, the Lord be praised. That's a more humane and sensible way to

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settle the unemployed problem than to raise them in "litters" like they did long ago to be thinned out by having them slaughtered in wars. Under existing conditions, I heartily approve of the policy of curtailing the supply for the overcrowding army of the unemployed, and furnishing ignoramuses for the field of slaughter at the bidding of inhuman rulers and leaders backed by big capitalists.

Woman is naturally mercenary—commercial in her instincts—else there could be no such thing as the "underworld." So that, if big capitalists would offer a neat cash premium for every baby born, there would soon be more babies than you could "shake a stick at."

Woman has no conception whatever of a moral principle. Instead, she has pride akin to vanity, fine sensibilities and an ardent religious nature which answer as a substitute for morality.

Woman's reasoning faculties are poorly developed, and she depends upon that remarkable instinct, that is often correct, by which she "jumps at conclusions." Hence, she has no detached judgment. She cannot think in the abstract and, therefore, cannot divorce her mind from her personality and reach conclusions through a process of thinking independent and beyond the environment circumscribed by the limitations of her sex.

In some respects, woman is a natural curiosity. Her ways are often past finding out. She has the female instinct of cunning so highly developed that she can pull so much wool over man's eyes as to make him appear like a poodle dog looking through a brush fence. Of course, men are "Smart Alexs" and think they are wise, but I have seen poor devils going around with enough wool pulled down over their eyes to make a bed quilt.

It is unfair to give woman the ballot as long as so many men are "soft," as it is no trick to influence thousands of mutts by her sex alone, to say nothing of her tongue, which is loose at both ends. Still, you can hardly blame the men for wanting the women to vote, since they are beginning to realize that they have made a filthy botch of politics and, as usual, want the women to clean up after them. Still, I'm thinking that, as the women don't know how, they are apt to make a nasty mess of it.

But you may depend upon it that I am not a "woman hater." I contend that, when women are well behaved, they are as good as anybody. What I "kick on" is when they get "too big for their breeches." I am willing to concede a great deal, but I object to them taking possession of the whole earth and fencing it in with barbed wire.

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SPEAKING OF BIG THINGS, if it weren't for Texas, California would be the biggest state in the Union. Anyway, Texas shrinks up considerably when it comes to big liars, for California can put it over her about 10 to 1, so that makes California, in one respect, the biggest state in the Union.

Real estate men tell some "whallopers." For instance, telling an Easterner that in some localities the land is too rich to raise pumpkins and melons because the vines grow so fast they wear out the pumpkins and melons dragging them around. You may have heard that joke before. If so, you now know how it originated.

That agent declared that on such land the corn and beans planted together grew so fast that they looked like succcotash. The only drawback was that a very high stepladder had to be used to gather the corn and beans, and in harvesting the fodder the cornstalks had to be chopped down with an ax and the roots taken out with a grubbing hoe. The price of such land ranged from $1000 to $5000 per acre.

The agent was then trying to sell the Easterner some "goose land," not quite so rich, he said, at $150 per acre, that 'pon my word wouldn't raise a jack rabbit.

Many of our real estate men would surely be good at bunco. It is said that some of them are worse than others. Still, I hardly see how that could be, do you? Well, some of them try to make the Easterner believe that nuggets grow on trees, and I am told that one Easterner did believe it and proceeded to buy a lot of nuggets and planted them. They came up all right in a few hours, but the real estate man denied harvesting the crop. He would have to prove an alibi by mighty good witnesses before he could convince me that he didn't "job" the Easterner.

They sell a great deal of land on installments and as fast as one purchaser starves out on the poor land he sells it to another. In some cases he sells the same piece of land so often that he realizes about $1000 an acre and has the land, with considerable improvements besides. Now, that is a perfectly legitimate way of making money and a heap safer than holding up a stage or a train.

Another way the real estate man contrives to make money is to buy up a tract of land adjoining a town or small city, cut it up into town lots and stake them off with white stakes that remind one of a cemetery for poor people. They run out the streets and alleys and sometimes grade the streets to catch the wise "sucker." They have a

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blueprint made of the addition to the town or city and about a carload of flaming literature printed to give to sub-agents who scatter out over the country to sell lots. Say, talk about hypnotism, telepathy and the like, why those fellows are past masters in occult, black art and, in fact, can sell town lots to the fakirs of India, who are said to be further advanced along that line than any human beings on earth. Still, it's a safe bet that a California real estate agent can sell them town lots, all the same.

The beauty of it is, when a man can't find anything else that will pay, he can go into the real estate business. He would have to be a "Joe Dandy," though, to make his salt competing with the old California war horses.

A good many preachers have grown weary of preaching to empty benches and tackled the real estate business and, let me tell you, they hold their own "and then some" with "the fattest of them." Their strong forte, though, is selling mining stock. I know of one who floated a $100,000 mining scheme on absolutely nothing but "hot air." Still, just because he has been a preacher is no sign he hasn't as much right to run a skin game as anybody. I believe in fair play This thing of talking about an ex-preacher because he "puts it all over" the other fellow is "played out." It's a free-for-all game of "everybody for himself and the devil for the hindmost."

THE SALOON that does the greatest harm is the finest and most neatly kept, with a clever and popular barkeeper. It is an inviting place of resort for young men and gentlemen, and is, therefore, the beginning of the procession of inebriates which ends at the doggery. If all saloons were doggeries, there would be vastly fewer drunkards. So with politics. Wilson, Bryan, Roosevelt, La Follette and all of that class are at the head of a procession of dupes that ends in poverty, hunger and rags. By their inviting professions and promises, they hold a large following which, in large part, would turn away from leaders who would "show their hand." If all of our leaders were of the shady class there would be vastly fewer dupes drawn into the political bunco game.

TO START the eugenic mating system into practical working order, I suggest that the best specimens of physical manhood, as determined by the Eugenic Board of Examiners, be commissioned to take the lead and be given a free hand with compensation for their services. They should be stationed at fashionable centers and health resorts, and should be licensed to keep a standing ad. in the newspapers, to read as follows:

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"EUGENIC GRADUATE!

"Licensed by the Eugenic Board of Examiners. Will spend the season at ———. None but the best specimens of physical womanhood, as determined by the Eugenic Board of Examiners, solicited. Rooms and first-class accommodations free."

I would further suggest that all others who pass the examination could marry if they chose, but that it be not at all obligatory. No other animals marry, and why should the human species? Are we any better than our "hairy ancestors"? "Not on your tintype." They neither marry nor are given in marriage, so why should we longer follow such a needless custom.

WE HAVE the single gold standard which is in violation of natural law. That's easy to prove. All of nature's creations are formed by twos. All animals, including man, and all birds and insects have legs and feet formed by twos. Kernels are formed in even numbers of rows on every ear of corn, and grain in even numbers of rows on every head of wheat, barley or other grains. Chemical affinities and combinations have even atomic numbers. There are two sexes, and every attribute of the mind has its counterpart. As for instance, love-hate, joy-sadness, hope-despondency, happiness-misery, and so on. Nature is, therefore, a double standard.

Now, gold and silver are a product of nature and, in their use as currency, we should conform to natural law in their coinage. As long as we use nature's money we should conform to natural law. Otherwise we violate natural law and the people suffer the consequences. As natural law is the end of argument, so this proposition admits of no argument.

I will just add that, as metallic money has been and is a curse of the world, therefore both gold and silver should be demonetized, and paper money issued and regulated by the government, and backed by its practically unlimited credit. And that, too, is not a debatable proposition.

NATURE IS CO-OPERATIVE in all of her activities. The animal and vegetable kingdoms are evolved from the mineral kingdom and, through death and decay, return to the mineral, to again be evolved into new forms of animal and vegetable growth, which is a revolving system. The interrelations are mutual, reciprocal and interchangeable. Nature's economic system is perfect, since nothing is gained or wasted—no profit and loss.

Every mechanical invention that human ingenuity has contrived conforms to nature's revolving system. All machinery and vehicles

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of every kind conform to that system. Everything but human governments and they are founded on private ownership, profit system and competition, which are typified by the tangent or straight line. They are the fundamental error and the parent of all social, political, economic and industrial errors, since the earliest history of the human race.

WHAT CAUSE brought into existence the liquor traffic, the tobacco traffic, prostitution, white slavery, gambling and all crimes committed for the purpose of gain? You will say that most of these evils and vices are co-existent with human government, which is true, but that is not answering the question. Men do not manufacture and deal in liquors and tobacco for amusement; women do not drop down to the underworld from choice, and white slavery, gambling and crimes are not a diversion. Then why did all these evils come into existence? The answer is easy. They all, including political and economic abuses, were introduced by the profit system, and all of them aggravated and instensified by competition. Now, if there had been no profit system or competition, would those abominations have existed? There can be but one answer, and every voter who has a grain of iron in his blood should stand for the system of government that would eliminate the profit system and competition, and that system is Social Democracy.

READER, DO YOU honestly believe that President Wilson, Bryan, La Follette, Roosevelt and other "reform" leaders are actually sincere in professing to believe that, under capitalism, any permanent relief can be secured to the people from economic and industrial abuse? Do you believe it? Well, if you do, you surely would be an easy victim for the bunco man. It was your kind that believed in rulers and leaders all down the ages and were led, and kept, in a hell on earth, and the kind that now believes in them to the extent of entering the most terrible slaughter field the world has ever known and offering their lives by the millions as a sacrifice of ignorant credulity to worse than beastly devils who easily lead them to the slaughter.

HERE ARE SOME "beauties" of the profit system: The doctor depends for distinction in his profession and his very living, for that matter, on the sickness and accidents that overtake people. As he prospers when there is much sickness, naturally he is elated over his prosperity.

The druggist is the doctor's assistant and aids him materially by making a great many people sick from taking his patent medicines. He, too, prospers on people's misfortunes.

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The undertaker—well, he has the whip hand. The victims of the doctor and druggist furnish him customers, with the further advantage that death is inevitable and sooner or later he gets them all as customers. And, moreover, he has the advantage of charging exorbitant prices for his goods without running the risk of being "Jewed down."

And the lawyer—he is surely the limit any way you take him. He also depends on people's misfortunes for gain and, in many cases, he hastens, and sometimes actually creates, the misfortune.

The saloonkeeper prospers, not on the misfortunes of people, but on their weakness. It is to his interest to create among people the habit of dissipating and throwing their money away for "booze."

Verily, great is the Profit System!

NO DEVICE, appliance or machine ever invented created such an economic and social injury as the automobile. It hastens the concentration of wealth by leaps and bounds by taking hundreds of millions of dollars out of circulation and building up trusts that return little of it into circulation. Ford, who has proven himself to be a half-breed Socialist, is a notable exception, and deserves the monopoly of the automobile trade.

While it cannot be denied that the automobile is a great convenience, it is, nevertheless, an expensive luxury. Thousands of people who would do well to own a carriage and horses have purchased machines on installment or secured the price by a mortgage on their homes. The farmer, the blacksmith, the harnessmaker and the liveryman are all badly injured, for the reason that the machine has supplanted horses, harness and vehicles. In fact, no one derives any profit from the auto but salesmen and garage proprietors, and they are non-producers. And they clean up but a small per cent of the money paid out for machines and supplies. The lion's share goes to build up the auto trusts.

The worst feature of the popularity of the auto, however, is the demoralization of young women by "the joy ride." In the large towns and cities the wreck of young womanhood is deplorable. Aside from that sad condition, I have "no kick coming," since the more rapidly wealth concentrates, the sooner the middle class will "squeal." That class must be brought down a notch or two before we can hope for real economic reform.

TO "TRAIN a child up in the way he should go" is quite a problem, if the way he should go is to pursue an honorable, manly and upright course. I trained my two boys to manhood, and I

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trained them in the way they (and everybody else) should go, but they have both learned the ways of the world and find themselves out of harmony with nearly all business methods and dealings. Still, I have no regret that I taught them never to sidestep from the path of sobriety and rectitude, for, after all, "honestly is the best policy." The earth would be a social paradise if everybody would live up to that idea.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT is literally a "rough rider" with a disposition to ride rough-shod over everybody and everything. He is an intellectual cannibal with the polish of a classical education. He is a born dictator and as such is a dangerous leader for his leading is toward dictatorship.

Roosevelt is intensely selfish and bigoted. His tirade a few years ago against race suicide and ardent appeal to the people to raise big families, and his more recent mission across the continent to stir up a war sentiment, brand him as a creature devoid of human sympathy, and place him on a level with tyrants and despots of long ago. He would advise the poor and ignorant, who have no better sense than to heed his advice, to rear large families to further overcrowd the army of the unemployed and, to deplete their numbers, he would stir up a war spirit and provoke trouble that would result in wholesale slaughter.

And Benjamin Ide Wheeler, president of the State University, which ranks among the greatest institutions of learning, is little better. Indeed, his position places him in touch with the young men of the country who naturally look up to him as authority. He, too, has a classical education, which proves how much of error is inculcated by our misleading system of education. The fundamental error of competition, and its outgrowth—capitalism and commercialism—is taught as the cardinal principle of government, together with history that glorifies triumphant generalship and applauds foolhardy soldiers who are blindly led through appalling slaughter to victory. Instruction in civil government and economics is full of error, while the two greatest theories of science—gravitation and "the descent of man"—are taught as true, to the detriment of all who accept them as such. For error is misleading, and if error constitutes a large part of the curriculum of the educational system, then we need not wonder that Roosevelt and Wheeler are so blinded by false education as to unconsciously advocate the culmination of all errors—war.

From this viewpoint it is easy to understand why war is not eliminated by so-called enlightenment. The general course of instruction in all of what are termed "civilized nations" is the same. The

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same great errors of history, of the fundamental error of government, of economics, of science, are taught—all leading the learner away from the truth to where he becomes bewildered and intellectually demoralized in the entanglement of error.

In Europe the war spirit has been kept aflame, particularly in Germany, where even the professed Socialists, by reason of the taint of false education, lost their bearing and fell into line in the most unrighteous and devastating war ever waged on earth.

I am glad to state in this connection, however, that we have in this nation two great educators who are untarnished by the war spirit. One is Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, and David Starr Jordan, chancellor of the Stanford University. Also, William J. Bryan, although a politician, is a powerful apostle of peace. Let these great men renounce all other errors, particularly the fundamental error of human government, and they will then stand for the principles of an enlightened and permanent peace.

FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS I have felt a keen sympathy for the happy, joyous children rollicking on the playgrounds of country schools as I have passed them, for I could see for the majority of them a cruel destiny awaiting the approach of mature years. Most of them have poor parents and their bright, innocent, unsuspecting children had before them a life of toil in competition with the degraded, cheap labor of other nations. I could plainly see the approach of the deplorable economic and industrial conditions that now prevail. Many of those children of thirty years ago are now "drawers of water and hewers of wood" for their masters, else, worse still, in enforced idleness. Yet this is "The land of the free and the home of the brave!"

THE IDEA of a literal hell doubtless originated from the awful havoc wrought by the damnable business methods of inhuman capitalism, suggesting to the founders of religion a hell with all of its fire and furies superintended by a sovereign devil who we now recognize as some hideous human monster who was and is the ruling spirit of capitalism. Such monsters have been the curse of humanity all down the ages and we have them today more cunning and crafty, if not more inhuman and brutal, than their predecessors who blackened the pages of history with direful calamities which, through the madness of greed, they inflicted on an ignorant and servile humanity. "Down With Capitalism" should be the slogan of all humanity, by peaceable means if possible, but failing—then by force which, after all, is the only power recognized by the demons of lust.

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A PROPHET of old said: "Once I was young, but now I am old, yet I never have seen the righteous forsaken or his seed begging bread." Following words occur in the Lord's prayer: "Give us this day our daily bread."

Now, that just suits capitalism—"servants, obey your masters," and look to the Lord for daily bread. Reader, does it occur to you that, under a co-operative system of government, such expressions would ever have been spoken or put into print for the guidance of future generations?

As between serving God and Mammon, Mammon seems to have, and always had, the whip hand.

THE COMING of the old Liberty Bell on July 16, 1915, en route to the Panama-Pacific Exposition, was well advertised in advance by the Redding papers, and a large crowd assembled at the depot to witness the old relic that rang out the glad tidings of freedom from British oppression more than a century and a quarter ago. As the train pulled in a few "stand patters" made a feeble effort to cheer, but the crowd failed to join in, so there was no evidence of patriotic enthusiasm—only curiosity.

To me the old bell was a study. I pondered over its early fate when its clear, resounding intonations were hushed forever, and to me the crack in the old bell is a token of short-lived freedom, just as the usefulness of the bell was of short duration. Else why its fate? My sympathy was aroused for the grand old bell that rested there before the curious crowd in silence as if in mute despair, yet speaking eloquently of its departed usefulness as a Liberty Bell. The poor old bell would fain ring out the glad tidings of a new Freedom, a new Independence and a new Liberty that some day must come:

"I beg of you not to desert me, but make of me a new casting that I may ring out the old and ring in the new deliverance, this time from economic and industrial oppression which will mean Freedom, Independence and Liberty for our country forever."

"ALL THINGS COME to him who waits" is an old saying, and undoubtedly correct. A clock or a watch that is not running has the correct time twice in twenty-four hours. A timepiece that is running and not keeping correct time is never right. So that, if one tries too hard to get ahead he is out of harmony with the principles upon which success depends, and is like the timepiece that fails to keep correct time—a failure.

It is simply impossible for a restless, impatient person to become wealthy through prevailing business methods. The cool, calm, deliberate money-maker will trip him as he hurries on. The born

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money-maker patiently waits the opportunity to trip all who are rushing on to an imaginary success. In a word, all millionaires who accumulate their wealth through business sagacity are extremely patient, and can easily wait until it would wear on the patience of Job to drive a fat bargain.

MT. LASSEN.

I was an eye witness to every eruption of Mt. Lassen from the first one to the last, covering a period of over one year and up to August 8th, when I left Redding, so that this description may be taken as reliable.

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There were over one hundred eruptions, but many of them were only large enough to entertain sightseers who came to Red Bluff or Redding to witness the famous phenomenon. The picture on the cover of this book was taken after the great eruption of May 22d, when the old mountain was slumbering. The big crater had choked by debris forced up by subterranean pressure which stopped the great flow of mud. Not since the first adventurer saw Mt. Lassen, to the date of the great eruption, has its loftiest peak been barren of snow. The picture shows the transformation from a snow crown to one of menacing blackness.

The accompanying picture shows the mountain in active eruption, which is famous as the "face picture," for the reason that the smoke shows a remarkable outline of a human face. That eruption sent torrents of mud down its slopes into Hat Creek valley, carrying with it all obstructions, even to tearing away a ridge and leaving an embankment ninety feet high. The settlers of Hat Creek valley fled for their lives to high ground and escaped death in the torrent of mud and debris. A huge stone, estimated to weigh over one hundred tons, was hurled five miles from the crater and was hot for several days. I was at Redding, where I commanded a splendid view of the volcano, forty-seven miles away, and surely witnessed a sublime spectacle as the vast volume of smoke boiled out, spreading and rising two miles above the crater. It was awe inspiring, for one would shudder for the fate of the many settlers and families who have comfortable homes within easy reach of destruction. But when the crater choked, the eruption subsided, and for some time the old mountain slumbered in menacing silence. A number of openings have formed from which smoke and steam issue continually. It may be safely predicted that the forces below are so undermining the peak that eventually it will sink and then will come the great eruption.

I use these pictures to illustrate the industrial condition of the nation. The settlers in comfortable homes in easy reach of destruction represent the people of the United States. A warning of the danger is shown by the accompanying picture, and the grim silence of the blackened peak as shown by the picture on the cover of this book warns us that the forces of unemployment, general discontent and unrest are gathering for a disastrous eruption. The settlers are warned of the danger and are living in false security. Are we warned that we are resting in false security over a slumbering industrial volcano? I have endeavored to show in these chapters the only means of escape which I trust will be seriously considered by the reader.

LATEST ERUPTIONS:—Two big eruptions of Mt. Lassen are reported from Redding, on September 23 and 24, when a vast

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volume of ashes and smoke gushed from a new crater, rising thousands of feet above the peak, then settling down and soon obscuring the mountain in a bank of haze. At this writing it is not known whether there was a flow of mud.

A FINAL WORD.

Following is an extract from an eloquent speech delivered by a Democrat, Senator A. A. Worsley, at Miami, Arizona, on Labor Day. It is a fit companion piece for a chapter in this book entitled, "The Meanest Creature on Earth." The following burning words tell of the mean things inflicted upon the millions of poor, and I expose the real perpetrators who, in all ages, have been the cause of "Man's Inhumanity to Man:"

"By the owning of the resources of the earth, including the land and the machinery, a few men are empowered to rob us at their will. They take the unearned increment, which belongs to society and is created by society, and appropriate it to themselves. It is a fresh and continuous robbery that goes on every day and every hour. It is not from the produce of the past that rent is drawn; it is not from the produce of the present—it is a toll levied upon Labor constantly and continuously. Every blow of the hammer, every stroke of the pick, every thrust of the shuttle, every throb of the steam engine, pay tribute to rent, interest and profit. It levies upon the earnings of the men who, deep under the ground, risk their lives, and of those who over white surges hang to reeling masts, it claims its reward of the laborer and the fruits of the inventor's patient efforts. It takes little children from play and from school and compels them to work under unhealthy conditions. It takes the mothers and the daughters from the home and draws them into the field of manual labor and industry to help support the family. It robs the shivering of warmth, the hungry of food, the sick of medicine, the anxious of peace. It debases and imbrutes and embitters; it crowds families of eight and ten into squalid rooms; it herds, like swine, agricultural gangs of boys and girls; it fills the gin palace and the groggery with those who have no comfort in their homes. It makes lads who might be useful men, candidates for prisons and penitentaries; it fills brothels with girls who might have known the pure joy of motherhood; it sends greed and all evil passions prowling through society as a hard winter drives wolves to the abodes of men. It

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darkens faith in the human soul and across the reflection of a just and merciful Creator draws the veil of a hard and blunted cruel fate. Like a great octopus, with its fibroid fingers, it reaches down into the womb of futurity and robs the unborn child of its natural heritage, its right to the use of the earth and the resources placed there by the Creator for the use of all mankind, and from the garden of the human heart it plucks and tramples the buds of hope and joy into the blood and tears of sorrow."

AN EXPLANATION.—While reading pages 36 and 38, turn to the "Symbol of Truth and Error" as printed on the outside cover. It will aid in reaching the true conception of the fundamental principle of Truth and Error, which will lead to the correct interpretation of Natural Law.

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